

Sangamon County Regional Plan

Heritage, Recreational & Cultural Amenities Study Group Report

December 2009

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HERITAGE

Historic Places:

National Register of Historic Places

Sangamon County has 58 locations officially registered with the National Register of Historic Places. A number of them are included in this document. For the full list, please visit the national register of historic places (<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/IL/Sangamon/state.html>).

The Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area

The Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area was enacted by the Congress and signed by the President on May 10, 2008. The legislation designates the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition, a nonprofit 501c3 corporation, to manage the Heritage Area. Both the Coalition and National Heritage Area cover the same 42 counties of central Illinois and share a mission to preserve, interpret and promote the heritage and culture of the area, in the context of Abraham Lincoln's life in Illinois. They seek to inform and educate, develop and interpret visitor-ready sites, create living history experiences, chronicle the evolution of the area's landscape and extend these opportunities to the largest audience possible.

The development of a management plan for the heritage area is underway which will provide direction and a framework for the project.

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum



The Presidential Library houses the most complete collection of Lincoln documents and artifacts in the world. It is also the premier repository for materials relating to the history of the Prairie State. This new facility presents Lincoln as he has never been presented before, using the latest interactive technology.

Brunk Morgan Horse Museum

Recognized by the United States Department of the Interior as a National Historic Property and the first property named a Sangamon County landmark, the Brunk Morgan Horse Museum celebrates six generations of Brunk contributions to the Morgan breed through nearly two centuries. The Brunk family's influence on the modern Morgan horse bloodlines is without parallel.

With a 189 year-old barn and a 179 year-old house (partially destroyed by fire in 2005), the Brunk Museum is situated on the site commonly referred to as "Cotton Hill Farm" located approximately 10 miles southeast of downtown Springfield Illinois

Camp Butler National Cemetery

Camp Butler National Cemetery is located near Riverton, Ill., and occupies a portion of what was the second-largest military training camp in Illinois during the Civil War.

The only memorial at Camp Butler is a carillon the American Veterans (AMVETS) donated around 1970 as part of their international living memorial program, which began shortly after World War II. The United Daughters of the Confederacy and Sons of Confederate Veterans erected a monument in December 2005 in honor of Confederate soldiers who died at Camp Butler prison camp during the



Civil War. The monument is located within the Confederate Section. A monument honoring the Illinois LST sailors was erected in May 2006. (<http://www.cem.va.gov/CEMs/nchp/campbutler.asp>)

Clayville Historic Site

Located near Pleasant Plains Henry Clay, also known as the “Great Compromiser.” It is home to one of the oldest brick buildings in Illinois, the Broadwell Inn and Tavern, built in 1834. Also located in the village is a log cabin built in 1817, a barn, and several other structures. Clayville functioned as a stagecoach stop between Springfield and Beardstown. It is likely that President Lincoln dined here as a young lawyer riding the circuit. The small village offered a blacksmith shop, a schoolhouse, a store building, and a tanyard. An Indian community was located close by.

Dana-Thomas House State Historic Site

The Dana-Thomas House (built 1902-04) is an expression of architect Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie Style. Wright designed more than 250 art-glass windows, doors, and light panels for the house, most of which survive. There are more than 100 pieces of Wright-designed white oak furniture in the house. The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency took control of the mansion in 1985 and led a restoration effort that has refitted the house to its 1906 appearance. It is believed to contain one of the most intact Frank Lloyd Wright architectural interiors in the United States.

(<http://www.springfield.il.us/commissions/histsites/DanaThomasHouse.asp>)



Edwards Place

Built in 1833, the Edwards Place is the oldest house on its original site in Springfield and is currently a historical museum, art gallery, art school and library. The house contains many furnishings and decorative pieces typical of a fine Victorian house of the 1800s. Abraham Lincoln gave several political speeches from the porch balcony, while the spacious grounds provided the perfect setting for political rallies at which both Lincoln and Stephen Douglas spoke. (<http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/News/default.asp>)

Elijah Iles House

The Elijah Iles House was built about 1837 and is Springfield's oldest house. There is evidence that it was designed by the same architect who designed the Old State Capitol. Two of Springfield's most famous citizens, Abraham Lincoln and poet Nicholas Vachel Lindsay, are known to have visited the house. Lincoln spent time in the house as a guest of Robert Irwin and he enjoyed many a card game in the front parlor. Because of the house's impressive architecture and rich history, it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

(<http://www.springfield.il.us/commissions/histsites/ElijahIlesHouse.asp>)

Illinois Executive Mansion

The Illinois Executive Mansion has the distinction of being the third oldest continuously occupied Governor's Mansion in the Nation. The mansion's exterior, designed by architect John Mills VanOsdel, is in the Georgian style with a Victorian facade. Thomas Dennis designed the Greek Revival interior. Seven U.S. presidents have been received here and several men who either had been or would become president have been guests, including Abraham Lincoln. The Executive Mansion is a museum, containing many priceless works of art, including the Lincoln Table, created in 1864 from more than 20,000 pieces of inlaid wood, and a smiling bust of Abraham Lincoln for which he posed for artist Thomas D. Jones. The Mansion is also a home filled with the memories of the lives and families of many Illinois governors and those who came to visit (<http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/News/default.asp>)

Illinois State Capitol

The first legislative session was held in the "new" state capitol in 1877. The growth of the state had increased the need for more file, storage, and office space than the "old" one allowed. Today it is the center of state government and houses the offices of the Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Comptroller, and Treasurer, as well as the House of Representatives and Senate Chambers. Visitors can watch Illinois politics in action from the balcony-level seating when the legislature is in session. (<http://www.online-springfield.com/sites/capitol.html>)

Illinois State Museum

The Illinois State Museum promotes discovery, learning, and an appreciation of Illinois' natural, cultural, and artistic heritage. The Museum's extensive collections and research activities provide the foundation for exhibitions and public programs that tell the story of the land, life, people, and art of Illinois. The Illinois State Museum is headquartered in Springfield with branch facilities throughout the state. The Springfield location holds a wide variety of regular activities and events throughout the year, many of which are free to the public. (<http://www.museum.state.il.us/>)

Illinois Vietnam Veterans State Memorial

The Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial, dedicated in 1988, honors the almost 3,000 Illinoisans killed or listed as missing in action during the Vietnam War.

The center of the Memorial is an eternal flame supported by five vertical gray granite walls, each representing a branch of the armed services. Radiating from the vertical walls are five polished black granite horizontal walls, enclosed by a low circular wall forming five courtyards. The names of the dead and missing in action are carved into the black granite.

The "Vietnam Veterans Vigil and Memorial Service" is held on the first full weekend in May, with a Memorial Day observance later in the month. A "Christmas Remembrance" is observed on the second Saturday in December. (http://www.illinoishistory.gov/hs/vietnam_memorial.htm)

The Inn at 835

The Inn was designed during the Arts and Crafts Movement by one of the area's leading architects, George Helmle. The building's founder was Miss Bell Miller, a turn-of-the-century local businesswoman and florist to Springfield's high society.



Built in 1909, Bell had created one of Springfield's premier residences, with airy verandahs, exquisite oak detailing, and massive fireplaces to warm the heart. Situated on a corner, near the neighborhood once termed "Aristocracy Hill", the building's simple, dignified exterior design appealed to a refined sense of taste. As the years passed, an array of aristocratic tenants graced the luxury apartments. The Inn is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has been honored as a Springfield landmark by the City of Springfield.

Korean War Memorial

The Korean War State Memorial, honoring 1,748 Illinoisans killed during the 1950-1953 Korean War, was dedicated on June 16, 1996. The Memorial consists of a twelve-foot-tall bronze bell, with a diameter of twelve feet, mounted on a granite base. At the circumference of the bell are four niches, each with a larger-than-life figure representing a branch of the armed services. Inscribed on the base are the names of

Illinoisans killed in Korea. A carillon system in the Memorial plays brief musical programs at regular intervals. (http://www.illinoishistory.gov/hs/vietnam_memorial.htm)

Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices State Historic Site

Abraham Lincoln practiced law in the offices above Seth Tinsley's store from 1843 until 1852. This is the only surviving structure in which Lincoln maintained working law offices. (<http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/hpartners/hpartnerdetail.asp?id=20>)

Lincoln Home National Historic Site

The Lincoln home has been restored to its 1860 appearance, revealing Lincoln as husband, father, and politician. Your tour of this national treasure will be conducted by National Park Service Park Rangers. The Visitor Center contains a large model of 1860 Springfield with sights and sounds of the local townspeople experiencing the notoriety of having a presidential candidate right in their own backyard. In the exhibit, "The Springfield Lincoln Knew," Lincoln rose from a country lawyer and sometime politician, to state legislator and U.S. Congressman, inventor, storyteller, corporate lawyer, and finally, President-elect. Films and a Museum Shop are also available.

Outdoor exhibits throughout the historic neighborhood emphasize the Lincolns and the community they lived with exhibits on Politics, Economic and Ethnic Diversity, Mary Lincoln's Circle of Friends, Lincoln's Home Becomes a Shrine, and Daily Life.

(<http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/hpartners/hpartnerdetail.asp?id=16>)

Lincoln Tomb (Oak Ridge Cemetery)

This beautiful monument marks the final resting place of Abraham, Mary Todd, Tad, Eddie, and Willie Lincoln. The monument was designed by sculptor Larkin Mead, completed in 1874, and paid for with public donations. The original receiving vault in which Abraham Lincoln was buried can be seen on a tour of the cemetery.

(http://www.illinoishistory.gov/hs/lincoln_tomb.htm)



Lincoln's New Salem Historic Site

Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site, about 2 miles South of Petersburg and about 20 miles Northwest of Springfield, is a reconstruction of the village where Abraham Lincoln spent his early adulthood. The six years Lincoln spent in New Salem formed a turning point in his career. Although he never owned a home here, Lincoln was engaged in a variety of activities while he was at New Salem. He clerked in a store, split rails, enlisted in the Black Hawk War, served as postmaster and deputy surveyor, failed in business, and was elected to the Illinois General Assembly in 1834 and 1836 after an unsuccessful try in 1832.

Twelve log houses, the Rutledge Tavern, ten workshops, stores, mills and a school where church services were held have been reproduced and furnished as they might have been in the 1830s. The furnishings, including many articles actually used by the New Salem people of Lincoln's time and others dating back to the same period, were assembled and donated to the state by the Old Salem Lincoln League. The collection includes such early-nineteenth-century articles as wheat cradles, candle molds, cord beds, flax hackles, wood cards, dough and cornmeal chests, and early American pewter. (<http://www.lincolnsnewsalem.com/>)

Lincoln-Van Buren Trail

A roughly 8-mile trail that traces the route Van Buren took when he visited Rochester and near a silo bearing a 16-foot-by-24-foot mural that depicts the two politicians talking.

Looking for Lincoln Story Trail

Scattered throughout the downtown Springfield area are a series of 41 Wayside Exhibits, often called storyboards, which describe the people and places that Lincoln would have known when he traveled the streets of the city. These wayside exhibits are designed to tell stories that might not be part of the interpretation at each site. So that visitors learn something about Springfield as they walk from one place to another. There are almost 100 of these story boards within the newly designated Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area and when complete the project will have approximately 200 story boards.

Old State Capitol

With its majestic classical columns and exterior details, this Greek Revival-style building has abundant Lincoln associations. In addition, to attending legislative sessions in the building, Lincoln sometimes argued cases before the Supreme Court, which also met in the Capitol. It was also in this building that Lincoln first confronted Stephen A. Douglas, his rival for the Presidency in 1860. Lincoln made his “House Divided” speech here, maintained an office after election to the Presidency, and his body rested here on May 3-4, 1865, before burial at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

In 1869, the Old State Capitol was sold to Sangamon County and served as the County Court House for nearly a century. In 1961, the State repurchased the building and restored it to its original appearance. The building was dismantled in 1966 and rebuilt with a modern physical plant and staff facilities. Currently, the building is a museum. (<http://www.springfield.il.us/commissions/histsites/OldStateCapitol.asp>)

Pasfield House

The Pasfield House is located just west of the current State Capitol Complex and was once part of a 40 acre estate that three generations of George Pasfield had resided on since the early 1840’s. Built by the grandson of one of Springfield’s wealthiest families, the work of artisan craftsman displays an architectural style from bygone era. The Georgian-Revival mansion is an architectural treasure both inside and out.

The City of Springfield designated the Pasfield House as a City Landmark as well as the area surrounding the former residence, as the Pasfield House Historic Area. (<http://www.pasfieldhouse.com/>)

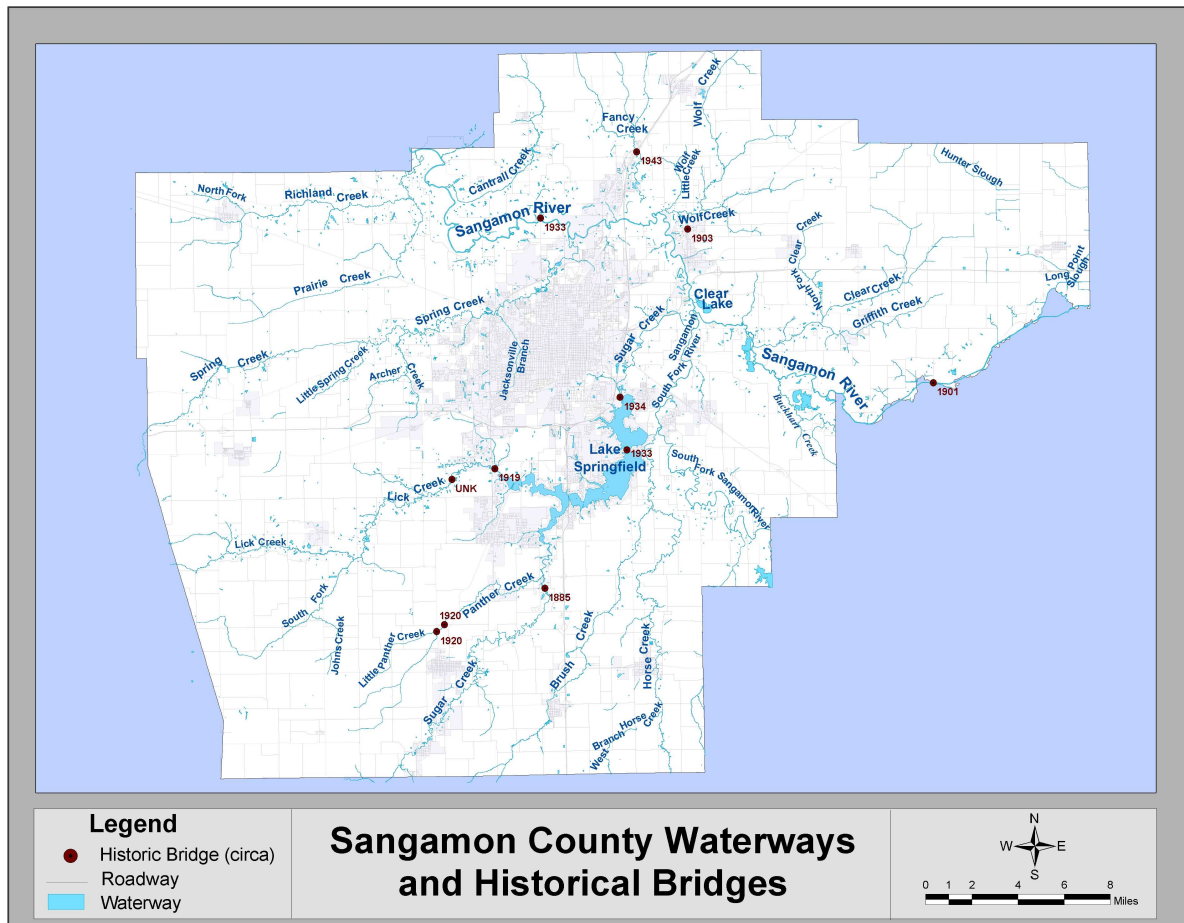
Rochester’s “Old Stone House”

This historical Rochester structure was constructed using stone from a quarry on the South Fork owned by Samuel Williams. Stevens' house may have been built with stone from the same quarry – or even by the same builder. The house was occupied until 1954. It stood empty nearly 50 years at which point the Rochester Historic Preservation Society acquired it, disassembled it, and rebuilt it at the Rochester Village Park. The beautifully restored “Old Stone House” is now used to host community events. (http://www.sancohis.org/PDFs/MARCH2009_HISTORICO.PDF)

Sugar Creek Covered Bridge

Sangamon County has one covered bridge, located near Chatham on Covered Bridge Road. The bridge was built in 1885 and spans 58 feet. It is open to pedestrian traffic.

Sangamon County has ten historic bridges. The map below indicates where each is located and lists its construction date.



(CTRL+Click to download high resolution PDF)

Vachel Lindsey Home

Home of Nicholas Vachel Lindsay, the "Prairie Troubadour", who won fame in the early decades of the twentieth century for his style of syncopated repetitive poetry written to be performed. He also wrote prose and was an artist, working primarily in pen and ink. The 1840s Greek Revival home was owned in the mid-1800s by Abraham Lincoln's sister-in-law and her husband, who often entertained the Lincolns here. (<http://www.springfield.il.us/commissions/histsites/VachelLindsayHome.asp>)

Historic Markers

Daughters of the American Revolution: 40th SAR Congress, Abraham Lincoln (13 markers), Elijah Iles, First Brick Home, First Church, First School, George Washington, Kelley Cabin, Phebe Dake Cleveland, Potawatomi Trail of Death, Real Grand Daughters, Revolutionary War Soldiers, Sangamon Court House, Sarah Arnold Churchill, Susannah Graham Fleming, Ulysses S. Grant, World War I

Illinois State Historical Society: Old State Capitol, Clayville, The Edwards Trace

Looking for Lincoln: < information requested >

Presidential Ties

Sangamon County is proud of its numerous ties to the nation's current President, Barack Obama. President Obama began his public service as an Illinois State Senator serving from 1997 to 2004 at the Capitol Building in Springfield, Illinois. He went on to represent Illinois as a U.S. Senator from 2004 to 2008. In 2007, Senator Obama chose to make his announcement to run for President at the Old Capitol Building in Springfield, Illinois, where Lincoln had given his "House Divided" speech in 1868. Later in his campaign, he chose to return to the Old State Capitol Building to announce his Vice-Presidential running mate, Senator Joe Biden.

RECREATIONAL AREAS

Conservation and Preservation Areas:

Adams Wildlife Sanctuary

Owned by the Illinois Audubon Society the 40-acre sanctuary is located on Clear Lake Avenue, on the east side of Springfield, a few blocks west of the intersection of I-55 and I-72. The woods, walking trails, and a small prairie restoration are maintained as an outdoor classroom, as well as for the public. Trails are open daily, and there are several special public events throughout the year.

Stewardship is needed to make the woods sustainable as a long-term teaching resource by stabilizing the tree community and the control of some non-native plant species. The Friends of Sangamon Valley is currently leading the effort to manage the woods.

Adams Wildlife Sanctuary is one of several statewide nature areas preserved by the Illinois Audubon Society. Located just minutes from downtown Springfield, the Sanctuary provides an opportunity for urban children to experience hands-on activities and learn about the interdependence of plants, animals, and themselves. Woods and prairie habitats are found in this 40-acre Sanctuary. (ISAS, 2008)

Brush Creek

The Brush Creek area is approximately 200 acres and is mostly owned by the City of Springfield. It includes the only occurrences of Post Oak in the county. (LaGessee & Assoc., 2004)

Carpenter Park

One of two INRA sites identified by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Carpenter Park is the only place classified as a natural area in Sangamon County (IDNR/INAI database). Carpenter Park is a 424-acre tract with high quality upland and floodplain forest communities, intermittent streams, small seeps, and sandstone bedrock outcrops. These features represent over half of the remaining forest that originally occurred along the major streams of the Springfield Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. Carpenter Park has a well-documented history, which begins with the local Indians who wintered on the bluffs above a river they called Sain quee-mon (Sangamon). Two early settlers, William and Margaret Higgins, built



(Carpenter/Riverside Park - Chris Young/The State Journal Register)

a cabin near the present day preserve and were possibly the first white people to view the area. William Carpenter arrived in 1820 and opened a small farm, established a ferry, and erected a flour and saw mill on the Sangamon River. Carpenter's daughter Sarah inherited the property and eventually sold it to the Springfield Park District in 1922.

In spite of heavy use, the preserve still maintains a high quality wet-mesic floodplain forest, dominated by old growth sycamore, silver maple, cottonwood, and box elder trees. The dry-mesic upland forest community is dominated by black and white oaks and scattered with scattered black cherry and hickory. The steep slopes and ravines support red and white oak. The canopy trees are over four hundred years old, but past disturbances have eliminated the younger age classes (LaGessee, V, et al., 2001). This large tract along the river is important habitat for many wildlife species such as deer, raccoon, white-footed mouse, and short-tailed shrew. At least 82 species of birds nest here, including the pileated woodpecker, scarlet tanager, summer tanager, Kentucky warbler, parula warbler, yellow - throated warbler, and prothonotary warbler. (IDNR, 2009a)

Gurgen Park's 270 acres is adjacent to Carpenter Park and serves as a buffer for the preserve and shares many of its features.

Carver Yocum Homestead Park

Approximately 9-acres on east side of Camp Butler, north of Old Rt. 36. Carver Yocum Homestead Park was acquired by the county through a buyout from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and has a history of flooding. In 2007, a conservation easement was established for the park with the Friends of Sangamon Valley group. The property includes Silver maple floodplain forest, wet prairie (restoration in process) and wet mesic prairie (restoration in process) and is home to large persimmon trees. Friends of Sangamon Valley have plans to establish an interpretive trail on the site. (FOSV, 2008a)

CWLP Wildlife Sanctuary

The Wildlife Sanctuary is 12.89 acres. It is located on Woodland Trail in Chatham, IL. The Wildlife Sanctuary has playground equipment, horseshoe pits, and a softball diamond. There is one pavilion and four uncovered picnic areas, as well as a dock for access from the lake. (CWLP, 2009)

Glenwood Woods

Located north of Glenwood Middle School off Chatham Rd, this 75-acre tract is owned by CWLP. Friends of Sangamon Valley have submitted a management plan for review to CWLP. The site is mostly upland oak hickory forest; with small portions of hardwood floodplain forest and dry upland slopes dominated by chinquapin and bur oak. Vern LaGessee of Friends of Sangamon Valley says, "This is one of the best public-owned uplands outside Carpenter Park, it shows few exotics and we think this will be a great opportunity to develop a learning curriculum to work with Glenwood Middle School as an outdoor lab." (FOSV, 2008b)

Irwin's Park

"Auburn Township's Irwin's Park is a historic conservation/recreation area. Panther Creek flows from west to east through the entire Park. Irwin's Park consists of approximately 28 acres of picturesque timber and approximately 35 acres of tillable land. The only remains of a dance pavilion in the timber are 20 pillars that supported it. A 2-acre yard with historic residence known as the "Rock House" and brick outhouse situated on it are near the remains of the foundation of a 2-story mansion built in 1865 by Capt. James Irwin and his wife, the former Rachel Harlan, daughter of Silas Harlan. Paul Irwin, Dallas, Texas, great-grandson of Silas Harlan, gifted this entire property known as "Irwin's Park" to the Auburn Township in December 1991. The Board of Trustees of Auburn Township deeded said property to the Irwin's Park Association, Incorporated, in April 2008." (Irwin Park Association, 2009)

Sangchris Lake State Park

In August of 1997, the Department of Natural Resources purchased 1,180 acres along the west shoreline of Lake Sangchris from ComEd. Today, ongoing developments and improvements have transformed the Sangchris Lake State Park into a popular outdoor retreat. The recreation area is a popular location for picnicking, camping, fishing, hunting, and boating. (IDNR, 2009b)

Lick Creek Wildlife Preserve

Lick Creek Wildlife Preserve is 340 acres. It is located at the western-most end of Lake Springfield and comprises beautiful wooded hills and marshy lowlands. There are hiking trails throughout the Preserve, which is home to a variety of native flora and fauna. The area was set aside as a wildlife preserve in 1991. (CWLP, 2009)

Lincoln Memorial Gardens

In 1936, Springfield native Harriet Knudson envisioned a unique living memorial to Abraham Lincoln, a garden composed only of plants native to Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, the three states in which Lincoln lived. She convinced the city of Springfield to donate land along the shore of the newly created Lake Springfield, and Mrs. Knudson, a member of the Springfield Civic Garden Club, coordinated a project in which the Garden Clubs of Illinois agreed to sponsor the project. To design the unusual living tribute, Mrs. Knudson was able to secure the services of Jens Jensen, one of the nation's foremost landscape architects.



Today's Lincoln Memorial Garden includes more than 100 acres of land that incorporate the original 63 acres, the Walnut Grove, small tracts to the east and south of the original property, and a 29 acre site known as the Ostermeier Prairie Center. This former farm includes a century-old restored farmhouse, barn and a pond. It was acquired by the Foundation in 1995. The pasture and cropland have been restored to native prairie typical of central Illinois during pre-settlement days. (LMGNC, 2009)

Nipper Wildlife Sanctuary

Nipper Wildlife Sanctuary is 120 acres located 12 miles southwest of Springfield near Loami. Established in 1992 by the estate of Frank and Gladys Nipper, it includes over 150 different species of flowers and plants (Robert, 2007). One hundred acres of the Sanctuary is prairie, twenty is floodplain forest along with eight acres is wetlands (Per conversation with LaGessee, V., 2009).

Riverside Park

Riverside Park has 470 acres and is located on the far north side of Springfield, west of Business Route 55 (Peoria Road). The park is bordered by the Sangamon River and Carpenter Park to its north and the railroad to the west. Mixed commercial, industrial and residential uses surround the park on the south and east sides. Riverside Park is naturally divided into an upper and lower section. (SPD, 2009c)

The upper section provides both a nature/equestrian adventure and open green space for activities. Visitors have access to nearly 100 campsites and a number of nature trails. The park does flood during the spring of each year periodically due to the rise of water from the Sangamon River. The park closes for safety reasons during flood season. (SPD, 2009a)

The lower section of Riverside Park contains approximately 200 acres and is designated primarily as an unleashed dog run area. This area includes a small pond and just less than one mile of riverfront land for you and your dog to enjoy. Lower Riverside also contains a BMX Club and eight baseball fields are located in the flood plain near the river. Bank fishing and hiking are available along the mile-long road adjacent to the river. (SPD, 2009b)

Sangamon River State Fish and Wildlife Area

A satellite of Jim Edgar-Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area, the Sangamon River State Fish & Wildlife Area is 179 acres of river frontage near Athens, Illinois. The area is open to hunting (special permit required), bank fishing, hiking, bird watching, and other such uses.

South Fork Nature Preserve

Approximately 3.8 acres along Bakutis Rd. near Rochester. This property was purchased from The Federal Emergency Management Agency for the county for use as open space. Friends of Sangamon Valley manage the site through a 2006 conservation easement. The area is hardwood floodplain forest with large hardwood trees, a historic bridge abutment, and is home to the state endangered Kirtlands water snake, the pileated woodpecker and oriole. (FOSV, 2004)

Water:

Lakes

Lake Springfield and the Sangamon River provide good opportunities for fishing, boating, and swimming, and the surrounding areas provide good opportunities for picnicking, hunting, camping, and hiking. Several hundred acres of Sangchris Lake are in the southeastern part of the county. This State-owned lake is suitable for fishing, boating, and other recreational activities. (USDA, 2004)

More than 70 species of fish inhabit the waters of Sangamon County. Prime opportunities for fishing are available on rivers, streams, lakes, and farm ponds.

Lake Sangchris

Lake Sangchris, partially located in Sangamon County, is one of the most heavily fished lakes in the State. About 65,000 angling trips are made to this lake each year (IDNR, 2000c). Lake Sangchris has excellent populations of largemouth bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, bluegill, and crappie. The lake also supports a striped bass fishery and currently holds the State record for that species (31 pounds 7 ounces).

Lake Springfield

City Water, Light & Power owns and manages Lake Springfield and its surrounding 57 miles of shoreline and numerous public parks. The lake adjacent parks receive 600,000 visitors annually.

The 4200-acre reservoir is the largest municipally owned lake in Illinois. Lake Springfield's primary purpose is to serve as the source of drinking water for the city of Springfield and several nearby communities. In addition, it is a major central Illinois recreation center, as well as the source of condenser cooling water for the utility's lakeshore power plant complex. (CWLP, 2009c)

Lake Springfield provides a Sangamon County venue for fishing, boating, and swimming. Lake Springfield is the most heavily fished impoundment located entirely in the county. Approximately 25,000 fishing trips are made to that lake each year (Illinois Department of Conservation, 1991). Boats allowed on Lake Springfield include canoes, motorboats, pontoons, rowboats, and sailboats. Boats and craft of any

kind with mast heights of more than 35 feet may be used, kept or stored only on the central basin and central basin marginal land. (CWLP, 2009a)

There are 15 sport fish in Lake Springfield, including strong populations of largemouth bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, bluegill, walleye, and white bass. Fishing is allowed either from boats on the water or from any public portion of the shoreline. Swimming, bathing and wading are permitted only in designated areas. (CWLP, 2009b)

Streams and Rivers

The county has about 428 miles, or 1,611 acres, of streams. The Sangamon River flows for more than 50 miles in the county. Major fishing areas are the Sangamon River, the South Fork of the Sangamon River, and Lick Creek and Sugar Creek directly west of Springfield. These areas support largemouth bass, white bass, crappie, sunfish species, walleye, drum carp, and catfish species (Illinois Department of Conservation, 1971).

Parks:

NOTE: A review of existing information at the Regional Planning Commission, as well as survey of area communities will be performed to begin development of a comprehensive inventory of county parks.

Bridgeview Park

Bridgeview Park is 19.78 acres. It is located at 149 N. Lakewood Dr. in Chatham, IL. The park has playground equipment and a boat dock for access from the lake.

Chatham Parks

Three existing parks provide playground equipment and several baseball diamonds (West Side Park, Community Park, and Pioneer Park). The recently opened Chatham Community Park is a 72-acre park, which will feature four lighted baseball diamonds, soccer fields, lighted tennis courts, an open-air pavilion, jogging paths and natural open space. Recreational pathways include the six-mile bike/hiking path from Chatham to Springfield. (<http://www.chathamil.net/information/benefits/>)

Centennial Park

Centennial Park, encompassing 190 acres was added to the park district in 1997. The park is located on the far southwest side of Springfield and includes a small lake, ball fields and bocce ball area, as well as a playground and picnic area.

Douglas Park

Douglas park has considerable topographic relief. Mature oaks, hickories, maples and other native trees are scattered throughout, creating a beautiful park environment. The park has 3 parking lots, one along MacArthur Boulevard accommodating about 55 vehicles, one along Mason Street for about 90 vehicles and one along Salome for 50+ vehicles.

There is no vehicular circulation through the park. A pedestrian path, however, extends from the MacArthur parking lot and brick shelter, past the band shell, to the Mason Street parking lot. The trail spurs south to the restrooms, playground, 3 picnic shelters and 2 tennis courts. A new disc golf course winds through the park. A sledding hill is located to the northern part of the park. The Senior Citizen Center and parking lot are located in the southeast corner of the park near the Walnut and Mason intersection.

Edwin Watts Southwind Park

Eighty acres of donated land from the Watts family to the Springfield Park District, the Watts Southwind Park is designed to be environmentally friendly and entirely handicapped accessible. The park's construction is currently in progress. The future multi-use park will provide year round indoor/outdoor fun, education, and recreation programs set amidst beautiful natural habitats, wide-open green space, unique water features, and cutting-edge recreational facilities.

Plans for the park include the following facilities:

- 2 ½-mile pathway around the parks features,
- which include a 4 1/2 acre lake with gazebo and water fountain
- an outdoor amphitheatre
- a prairie grass human maze
- an 84-foot windmill
- various gardens and outdoor playground
- an 8-acre green space
- a life sized chess board
- horseshoe pits, bocce ball and shuffleboard courts
- a 7,000 square foot pavilion built to LEED Platinum environmental standards
- an indoor recreation complex with three swimming pools and an indoor soccer field.

(Springfield Parks Foundation Edwin Watts Southwind Park Brochure)

Jerome Memorial Park

“The Jerome Memorial Park located at the corner of Fillmore and Jerome Avenue was established and developed for Jerome residents and their family. The park, which includes a playground, a drinking fountain, park benches, picnic tables, beautiful landscaping, and a shuffleboard game, has been used as a backdrop for several village sponsored events.” (<http://www.villageofjerome.com/news.htm>)

Lincoln Park

Lincoln Park on the north side of Springfield is an 88-acre site added to the park district in 1905. This is one of the historic parks, developed as termini of the urban trolley line in use at the time. The site has relatively flat, open areas on the north and rolling, forested land on the west and south. It has a variety of passive and active recreational facilities. It is one of the heaviest used parks in the district.

Lincoln Park contains the greatest variety of sports-oriented facilities of any park in the district. The roadway network, trails and open space are used for walking, running, bicycling, training, and school district cross-country meets. The northern half of the park contains a soccer field, six ball diamonds with one lighted, 3 tennis courts, 3 shuffleboard courts and 6 horseshoe courts. Also in this area, the Nelson Recreation Center contains an outdoor swimming pool, two indoor ice rinks, and rooms for special events, a concession area and restrooms. South of the building is a small bandstand, a picnic area with shelters and a large playground.

In the southern half of the park, the historic stone pavilion is sited prominently on a hillside. A small playground is nearby. The historic stone bridge to the south spans a lagoon, creating a delightful location for pedestrian meandering, photography, etc. A disc golf course surrounds the lagoon and extends to the open meadow on the south.

Mechanicsburg City Park

There are multiple parks in Mechanicsburg. The first of the cities parks, known as “Old Park” includes a memorial plaque honoring local veterans. The “new” park has a playground, covered pavilion with picnic tables, ball park, and soccer field. A third park will be added as a part of Griffin Park Estates.

New Berlin Parks

New Berlin has three parks for the enjoyment and recreation of its citizens. The town's two water towers, located three blocks north of downtown, identify North Park. There is a picnic area, jungle gym, slides, swings, and teeter-totters. Also located in North Park is a time capsule that was buried in October 1976 and to be opened fifty years later in the year 2026.

Wabash Park, located in downtown New Berlin, is the host for several civic organization activities.

Corbett Park is located on the south side of New Berlin. The descendants of the Sheehan Family gave the land for Corbett Park to the Village. The Jaycees developed and funded the park in the late 1970's and early 1980's. The park features a large open area and a playground.

(<http://www.newberlin.il.us/StreetsParks.htm>)

Stuart Park

Located in Northwest Springfield, Stuart Park is 37 acres and includes a small pond, prairie planting as well as two fenced in dog runs.

Washington Park

Located at 1400 Williams Boulevard, Washington Park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and features walking trails, a botanical garden, large duck pond, rose garden, and carillon. (Springfield Park District Website)

Washington Park's Botanical Garden consists of outdoor plantings, a greenhouse (9,000 square feet), and a conservatory. In all it contains over 1200 species, including over 150 species of tropical plants. Outdoor gardens include a cactus garden, iris garden, rock garden, and a rose garden (5,000 plants). The Garden provides a scene of tranquility and beauty, an oasis of nature, within an urban environment. Educational workshops are offered at the Garden throughout the year. School tours for preschool through college level are conducted free of charge. Horticultural information is available in the form of guidebooks, handouts, interpretive labeling, and a telephone consultation program. (Springfield Park District Website)

The Rose Memorial Carillon at Washington Park contains 67 bells built by Petit & Fritsen. Concerts are held year round every Sunday and on Wednesday evenings during summer months. Tower tours are available daily. (Springfield Park District Website)

The CWLP Lake Springfield Parks

Cottonhill Park (East and West)

East Cottonhill Park is 7.71 acres. It has three uncovered picnic areas. West Cottonhill Park is 12.10 acres. It has five uncovered picnic areas and a boat dock for access from the lake.

Both parks have playground equipment and softball diamonds. The Parks are located near the southern end of East Lake Shore Drive, near Exit 88 off I-55.

(http://www.cwlp.com/Lake_Springfield/parks/lake_park_map.htm)

Lake Park

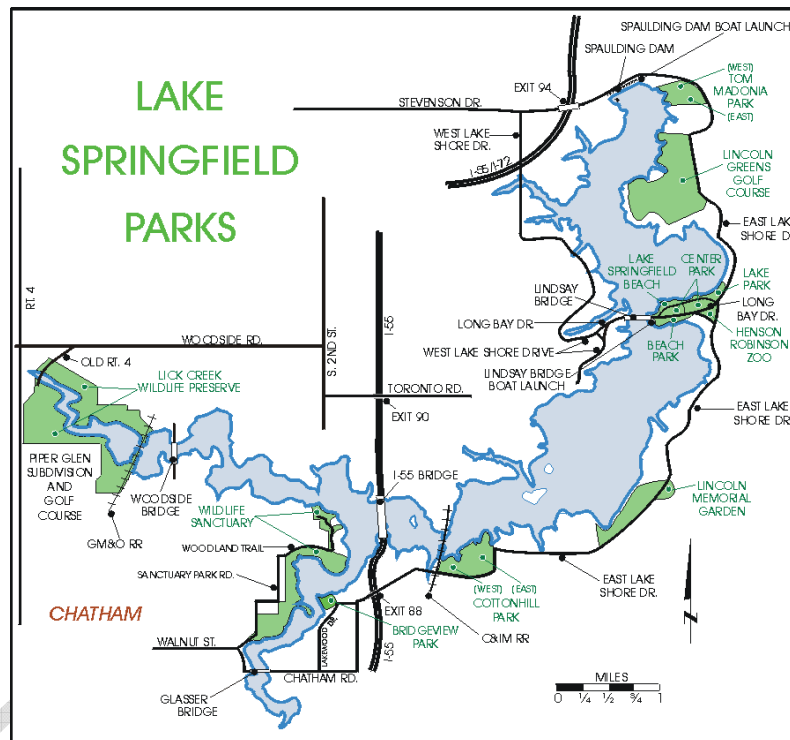
Adjacent to Lake Springfield and owned by CWLP, Lake Park is 10.51 acres. It is located on East Lake Shore Drive near the Henson Robinson Zoo. The park has two pavilions, four uncovered picnic areas, playground equipment, horseshoe pits, and a boat dock for access from the lake.

(http://www.cwlp.com/Lake_Springfield/parks/lake_park_map.htm)

Tom Madonia Park (East and West)

Adjacent to Lake Springfield and owned by CWLP, Tom Madonia Park west is 2.57 acres. It contains a small amount of playground equipment and horseshoe pits. It has one pavilion and three additional uncovered picnic areas, each able to accommodate 75 people. Tom Madonia Park East is 3.45 acres. It contains playground equipment, including some that is handicap-accessible. It has two pavilions and three additional uncovered picnic areas, each able to accommodate 75 people.

Please see the map below for locations of these and other CWLP Lake Springfield parks.



Williamsville Parks

Route 66 Park is a nice respite for travelers; this is a great place to fish, picnic or just sit and relax.

Samuel H. Jones Park is Williamsville's main park. It offers four baseball diamonds, tennis courts, a volleyball court, a soccer field, and playground equipment. A covered 1800 square foot pavilion is available for gatherings and can be reserved.

Springfield Park District Facilities Listing

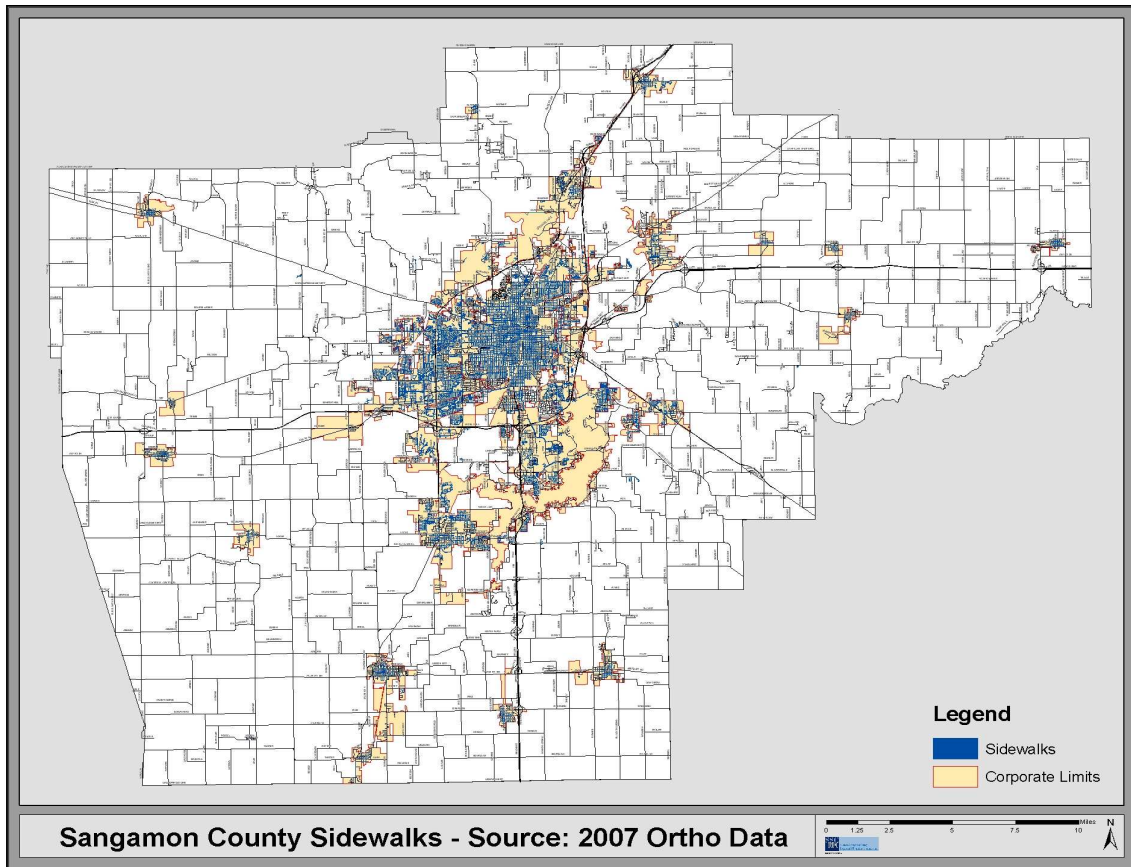
PARK / FACILITY TYPE	MAP NUMBER	PARK / FACILITY NAME	ACRES	PLYWOOD	SHELTERS	RESTROOM S	FISHING PIER	COURT GAMES	SPORT FIELDS	OTHER
Highland & Community										
	5	Corner Coal Park	6	2	1	1		BEQ(1), T(2)	none	paved walkway, fishing pond, paved walkway
	7	Overland Park	10.2	1	3	0	1	HS(1)	none	paved walkway, concessions
	9	East Park	3.5	1	1	1		HS(2)	BEQ(1)	paved walkway, adjacent pool, concessions
	10	Fairview Park	9.4	1	0	1		none	BEQ(1), S(1)	concessions
	11	Gelmann Park	3	1	0	1		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	12	Gert Park	11.7	1	0	0		none	BEQ(1), S(1)	concessions
	14	Hobby Park	2.2	1	0	1		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	15	Iles Park	10.5	1	2	1		T(2), HS(1)	BEQ(1)	concessions
	16	Indian Hills Park	3.1	1	2	0		T(2)	BEQ(1)	scoreboard for field
	17	Jagone Park	12.5	1	1	1		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	18	Jefferson Park	16.2	1	0	0		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	19	Kravens Park	10	1	0	0		none	BEQ(1), S(2)	picnic area, fishing lake
	21	Lake Victoria Park	7	0	1	0		none	none	concessions
	22	Lepher Park	2	0	1	0		none	BEQ(1), S(2)	picnic area
	23	Lindbergh Park	16	1	0	0		T(1), S(1), HS(2), BEQ(1), PT (1)	BEQ(1), S(2)	picnic area, paved walkway, concessions
	25	Patrick J. Cadogan Park	4.3	0	0	0		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	29	Solferino Park	3	0	0	0		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	30	Star Q	5.8	0	0	0		none	none	open hiking space
	31	Timberlake Park	10.4	0	0	0		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	32	Vanderburgh Park	1.5	1	0	0		BEQ(1)	BEQ(1)	concessions
	34	Victorine Park	10.9	1	0	0		none	none	picnic area, trail access
	36	Walker Park - Unimproved	28	0	0	0		none	BEQ(1), BEQ(2)	Under Development
	6	Douglas Park	28	1	3	1		T(2)	BEQ(1), BEQ(2)	Under Development
	8	Eisenhower Park & Pool	21.3	0	1	1		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	18	Kennedy Park	30	1	1	0		none	BEQ(1), S(1), PT(1), PT(2)	concessions
	28	Potter Park	49	1	2	1		BEQ(1), T(2)	BEQ(1), S(1), PT(1)	concessions
	30	Saint Paul	37	1	1	1		none	BEQ(1), S(1)	2 dog park areas
	1	1th & Eliza	1	0	1	1		none	BEQ(1)	concessions
	4	Centennial Park	169	1	2	0		BEQ(1), HS(2), T(2)	BEQ(1)	skate park, fishing lake, steel ball
	24	Lincoln Park	38.4	2	2	1		T(1), S(1), HS(1)	S(1), BEQ(1), DO(1)	1 tugboat, pavilion w/ banquet room
	33	Washington Park	159	1	1	1		T(2), PT(1)	none	2 tugboats, pavilion w/ banquet room
	30	Southwood	80	0	0	0		none	none	Under Development
	3	Carpeted Park	424	0	1	1		none	none	picnic area, hiking trails
	13	Guggen Park	270	0	0	0		none	none	public campsite, fishing, BMX, Triathlon, boat launch
	23	Riverside Park	470	0	0	0		none	BEQ(1)	public campsite, fishing, BMX, Triathlon, boat launch
	27	Henson Robinson Zoo	11	1	0	1		none	none	picnic area, concessions
	23	Nelson Center Recreation Facility	Lincoln Pk.	0	0	1		none	none	pool, concessions, 2 ice rinks, showers
	33	Ries Memorial Carlton	Vash. Pk.	0	0	0		none	none	carbon trout, scheduled music
	33	Washington Park Botanical Garden	Vash. Pk.	0	0	1		none	none	rose garden, conservatory, greenhouse
	40	Grinn Tennis Courts	2	0	0	0		6 Tennis Courts - Lighted	BEQ(1)	partnership with SHG
	40	Chamberlain Ball Park	6	0	0	1		none	BEQ(1)	2,500 seats, concessions, restrooms
	22	Robin Roberts Stadium	30	0	0	0		none	BEQ(1)	5,200 seats, clubhouse, restrooms
	8	Eisenhower Pool (indoor pool facility)	Elgin Pk.	0	0	1		none	none	competitive swim, diving, public swim
	12	Nelson Swim Center	Lincoln Pk.	0	0	0		none	none	giant slide, kids area, concessions
	23	Valerius Memorial Pool	Gert Pk.	0	0	1		none	none	slides, kids area, diving board, wading
	25	Burn Golf Course	189.5	1	0	1		none	18 Holes, BEQ(1), G(1)	PS, fishing pond, 13th hole
	23	Lincoln Greens Golf Course	228	0	0	1		T(1)	18 Holes	PS, Banquet Center, 6400 yds
	2	Bergen Golf Course	53.5	1	0	1		none	3 Holes	PS, Picnic Area, 2077 yds
	38	Pattfield Golf Course	33.7	0	0	1		none	3 Holes	PS, 2258 yds
	38	Lost Edge Trail	5 Miles	0	0	0		none	none	Parking at Entrance
	38	Washburn Trail	3 Miles	0	0	0		none	none	Parking at Entrance
	38	The Inverhuron Trail	5 Miles	0	0	0		none	none	Parking at Entrance

FIELD KEY: BEQ = ball diamond, S = soccer, DO = disc golf, F = football, HS = volleyball, G = golf, PS = Pro Shop, Pk = Picnic Area

Recreational Trails and Walkways

Walkways

Walkways, such as sidewalks, provide important transportation and access functions. They also are frequently used as recreational routes. A map of sidewalks for the county is below.



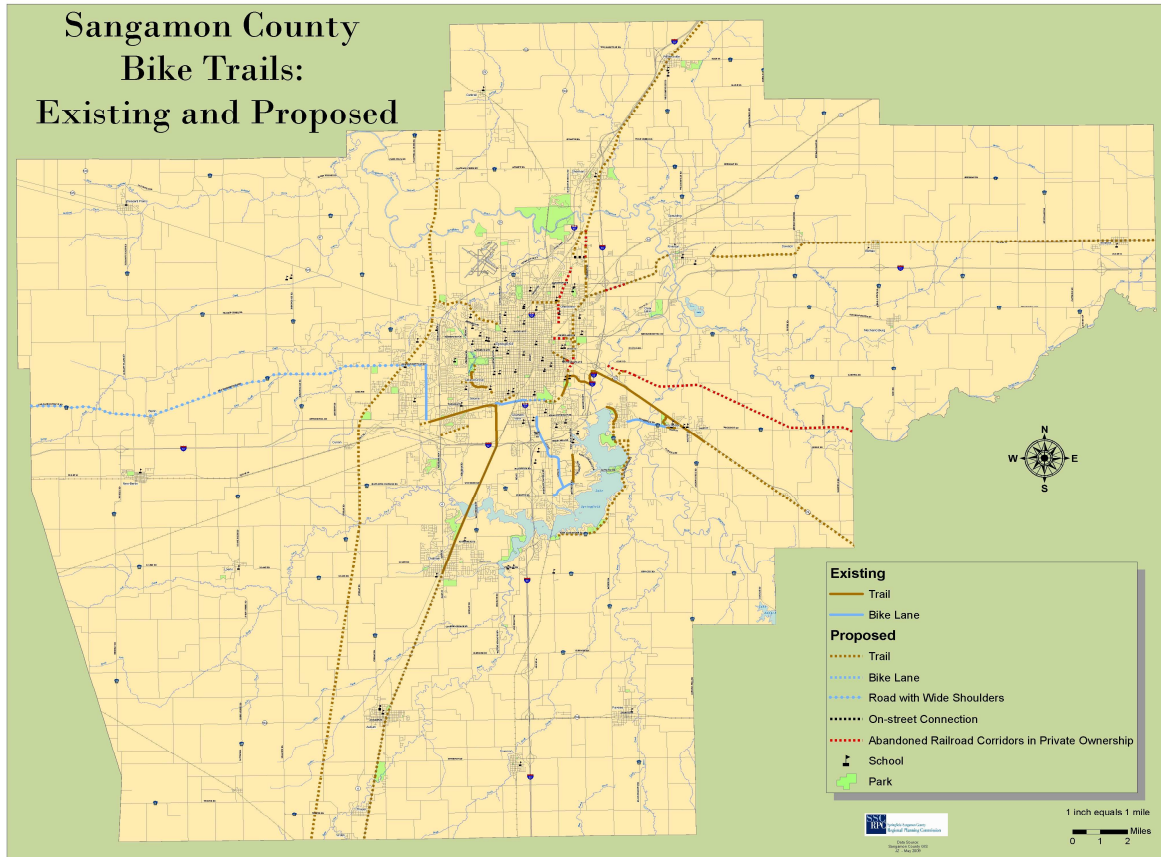
(high resolution map:

http://www.co.sangamon.il.us/Departments/RegionalPlanning/PDFs/Brochures_Docs/Comp_Plan/Sangamon_County_Sidewalks.pdf)

Trailways

In the mid-90's, the Department of Transportation's Enhancement Program approved funds for the areas first trails. Since then, Sangamon County has made significant progress concerning trails, including:

- "Sangamon County Greenspaces", a Greenways & Trails Plan for Springfield and Sangamon County, was completed in 1997, though never adopted.
- The Village of Rochester manages a portion of the Lost Bridge trail, and has connected it to their community park trail loop.
- Springfield currently has 15.6 miles of trails throughout the city.
- Future plans for trail expansion and new trails, such as the 38-miles Sangamon Valley Trail



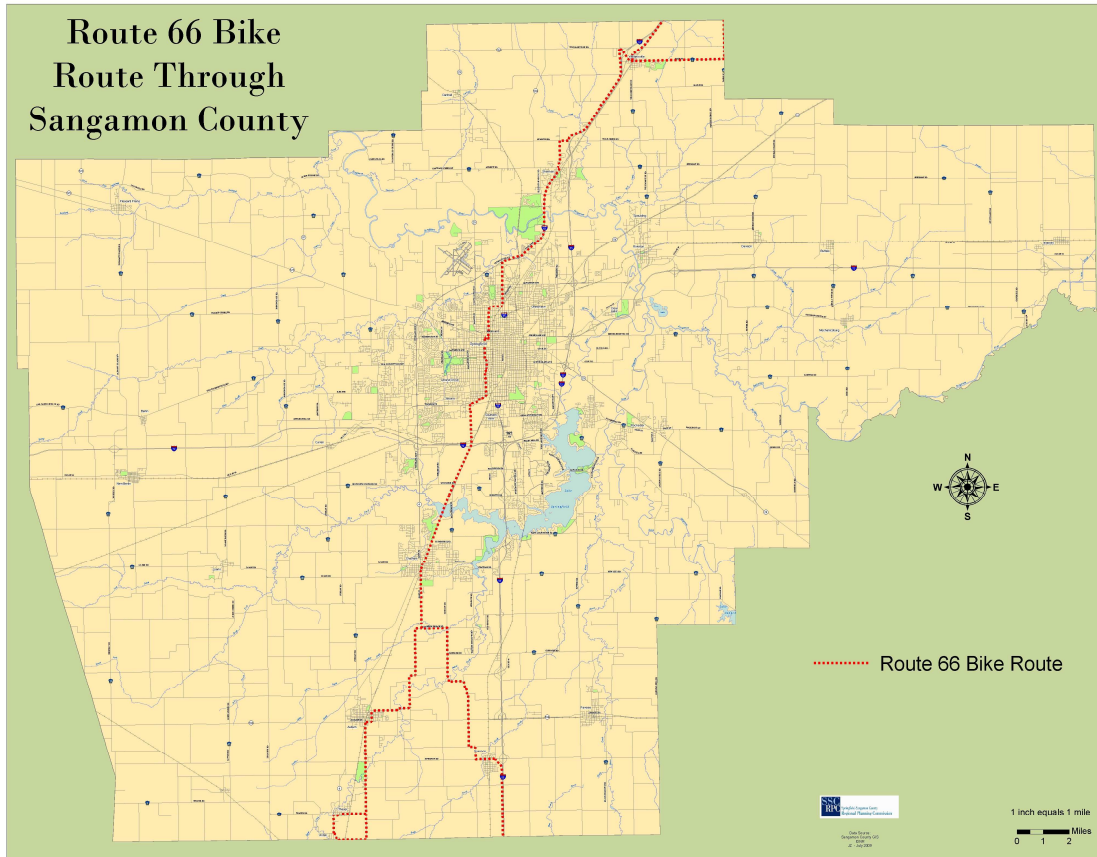
(high resolution map: http://www.co.sangamon.il.us/Departments/RegionalPlanning/PDFs/Brochures_Docs/Comp_Plan/County_Trail_Map.pdf)

Existing Trails			
Trail Name	Jurisdiction	Miles	Date Opened
UIS/LLCC	UIS/LLCC	0.65	
Lost Bridge Trail	City of Springfield and Village of Rochester	4.9	May 1997 / Sept. 2005
Wabash Trail	City of Springfield	2.2	July 1999
Interurban Trail (Wabash Avenue to Woodside Road)	Springfield Park District	3	July 1999
Interurban Trail (Woodside Road to Village of Chatham)	Springfield Park District/Chatham	4.1	June 2003
Lost Bridge Extension to Community Drive	Village of Rochester	0.75	August 2004

(SSCRPC 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan)

Route 66 Bike Route

The Route 66 Trail is a mostly on-road route for bicyclists and others, from Chicago to St. Louis. It is intended to promote touring by bicyclists and others through Illinois' historic Route 66 corridor and passed directly through Sangamon County.



high resolution map: http://www.co.sangamon.il.us/Departments/RegionalPlanning/PDFs/Brochures_Docs/Comp_Plan/Route_66_Bike_route.pdf

Future Trail Plans

Sangamon Valley Trail

In 2001, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), through the Open Land Trust Program, purchased an abandoned Union-Pacific railroad corridor. This 38-mile greenway travels through Sangamon County and into Menard County on the north and Macoupin County on the south. IDNR has developed a concept plan that presents a vision for developing this corridor as a recreational trail. IDNR proposes that the trail be developed through a cooperative partnership among the counties and communities along the trail. (SSCRPC 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan)

It is most likely that the 38-mile Sangamon Valley Trail will be developed in stages. IDNR's concept plan estimates the total cost to be \$15 million, which includes all engineering, construction, and access improvements. The plan divides the corridor into seven segments and places priority on three of the segments. These three segments have the most impact on previously mentioned MPA. Moreover, the MPA offers the most potential users of the trail. The three priority segments are: 1) Central Point Road to Stuart Park; 2) Stuart Park to Iles Avenue; and 3) Iles Avenue to Centennial Park. These segments total 9.4 miles and are estimated to cost \$3,960,200 (approximately 25% of the total trail). (SSCRPC 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan)

Funds for development include DNR's Bike Path grant program, which provides 50% of projects costs. Re-authorization of the federal transportation enhancement program is anticipated, which would be another source. Commitment of local sponsors and matches will be needed for the Sangamon Valley Trail to become a reality. (SSCRPC 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan)

Sangamon Valley Trail			
Cost Estimate of 3 Priority Segments			
Trail Corridor		Additional Trail Connections	Total
Preliminary Engineering	\$997,850	\$28,875	\$1,026,725
Construction	\$2,851,000	\$82,500	\$2,933,500
Total	\$3,848,850	\$111,375	\$3,960,225

source: Illinois Department of Natural Resources

The Interurban Trail

The Interurban trail connecting Springfield to Chatham is proposed to continue in the future south to Auburn.

Sherman to Williamsville multi-use trail

This trail project is in progress and will eventually provide biking, hiking, and walking access between Sherman and Williamsville along CILCO property. The two communities have secured a contract for use of the property as a trail. The project would take several years and an estimated \$1 million. The trail will be approximately 2.4 miles in length. (SSCRPC 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan)

Sports and other Facilities:

Chamberlain Ball Park

Chamberlain Ball Park is a ball field and parking area that occupies almost 10 acres on the east central side of Springfield. The full-size lighted field has raised stadium seating for 2000-2500 spectators situated on a large earthen berm. North of the berm is a paved parking area for 120-150 vehicles. To the west a grass and gravel area of about the same size provide for overflow parking. Shelters for shade, a concession building, and restrooms are also on the berm. Chamberlain Ball Park is home to the Robert Morris Eagles baseball team and hosts several well-known annual tournaments.

(<http://www.springfieldparks.org/parks/chamberlain.asp>)

Disc Golf Parks

In partnership with the Springfield Disc Golf Club, the Springfield Park District has constructed two disc golf courses available for public play. Both Lincoln Park and Douglas Park feature a complete 18-hole disc golf course. (<http://www.springfieldparks.org/facilities/discgolf/>)

Henson Robinson Zoo

The Springfield Park District's Henson Robinson Zoo is home to over 300 animals from Africa, Asia, Australia, and North and South America. The zoo's animal collection includes approximately 90 species of native and exotic animals. Henson Robinson Zoo is open year-round and is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. (<http://www.hensonrobinsonzoo.org/page.php?2>)

Jubilee Farm

The farm is a 111-acre center for ecology and spirituality. Programs and experiences are designed to help people understand our interdependent relationship to the whole of creation and learn how to live more sustainably with Earth. An organic vegetable garden and orchard provide healthy, chemical free food, as well as opportunities for teaching holistic and sustainable ways of eating.

Our Children's Garden and animals provide hands-on experiences for people of all ages. Come walk the land or spend some time in quiet retreat. Our walking trails, outdoor labyrinth, creek, and ponds offer tranquil settings for reflection. The farm's pottery studio offers classes in papermaking and clay pottery. (<http://www.jubileefarm.info/>)

Knight's Action Park / Caribbean Water Adventure

With two parks at one location, the water park offers its newest attraction - "The Devil Ray" (thrill ride) along with a wave pool, waterslides, and action river ride, pedal boats, activity pools and children's water-theme area (Seal Bay). The dry attractions include a golf practice range, miniature golf courses, batting cages, go-karts, and their newest attraction, "The Big Wheel" (Ferris wheel). (<http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/hpartners/hpartnerdetail.asp?ID=555>)

Nelson Recreation Center (Springfield Park District)

The Nelson Recreation Center contains an outdoor swimming pool, two indoor ice rinks, a large banquet hall with a full service attached kitchen, multiple concession areas and multiple locker rooms. The Nelson Center is a hub for activities, special events and programs for the community including summer day camps, swim lessons, ice skating lessons, fencing, and much more. (<http://www.springfieldparks.org/facilities/nelson.asp>)

Prairie's Edge Farm

Rochester - Hands on tour with all our farm animals. Collect eggs from hens; feed the pigs, cow, and horses. Some "pitch-fork," activities also included. Kids learn about modern day farming by having old time fun (http://www.agfun.com/central_attractions.html)

Robin Roberts Stadium

Robin Roberts Stadium is located in the south part of Lanphier Park on the north side of Springfield. A 100-vehicle parking lot, an office and maintenance building and a players' clubhouse serve the 5,200-seat baseball stadium. This irrigated ball field is home of two collegiate level baseball programs and several well know annual baseball tournaments.

New to the community in 2008, the Springfield Sliders are a collegiate level baseball team that emphasizes entertaining fans with fun promotions and between innings games on par with the best minor league teams in the country. (<http://www.springfieldparks.org/parks/rroberts.asp>)

Sangamon County Golf Courses

Sangamon County has 12 golf courses, 10 are public golf courses.

Springfield Park District courses

Bergen Golf Course 200 Eastdale Avenue, Springfield
 Bunn Golf Course 2500 S 11th Street, Springfield
 Pastfield Golf Course 1700 W Lawrence Avenue, Springfield
 Lincoln Greens Golf Course 700 E Lake Drive, Springfield

Other public golf courses in Sangamon County

Brookhills Golf Club 5350 Old Jacksonville Road, Springfield
 Long Bridge Golf Course 1055 Camp Sangamon Road, Springfield
 Piper Glen Golf Club 7112 Piper Glen Drive, Springfield
 Edgewood Golf Club Rural Route 3, Auburn
 Oaks Golf Course 5250 Oakcrest Road, Springfield

The Rail Golf Club 1400 S Clubhouse Drive, Springfield

Private golf courses in Sangamon County

Illini Country Club 1601 S Illinois Rd
Panther Creek Country Club 3001 Panther Creek Dr

Springfield Jr. Blues Hockey Team

The North American Hockey League Springfield Jr. Blues Hockey team will be squaring off at the Nelson Center in the top Junior A Hockey league in the nation. These 16-20 year olds are vying for berths on Division I college teams and in the professional ranks. Springfield has placed over 110 players on college teams in its sixteen-year history. (<http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/hpartners/hpartnerdetail.asp?ID=782>)

The Silo

The Silo inc. is a rock climbing gym in Rochester. The 65-100ft. indoor climbing routes are some of the tallest in the country.
(<http://www.cenil.com/sangamon.htm>)

UIS Campus Observatory

UIS's astronomy program possesses astronomical research and teaching equipment that is among the finest in the state of Illinois. The UIS Campus observatory is on the roof of Brookens Library. The observatory features five telescopes of various sizes and capabilities.

The University also maintains a remote observatory near Pleasant Plains that features:

20-inch Cassegrain focus telescope (for spectroscopy)	Diffraction-grating spectrograph
16-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope (for photometry)	Photometric equipment
Echelle spectrograph	Three charge-coupled devices (CCDs)

Events:

Annual Lincoln Pilgrimage

Celebrating its 64th year, as well as the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Abraham Lincoln this year, the Annual Lincoln Pilgrimage is a weekend of events hosted by the Abraham Lincoln Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Thousands of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Venturers and Explorers come to Springfield and experience the events, including the 21-mile Historic Lincoln Walk.

Capital City Century

This annual cycling event takes place in early September and has distance options of 10, 25, 40, 62, and 100 miles. The Springfield Bicycle Club sponsors this recreational ride. The CCC features organized food stops and SAG service.

First Night Springfield

New Years Eve celebration sponsored by the Springfield Area Arts Council that offering entertainment for children and families, including many live musical performances and a fireworks finale.

Illinois Products Farmers Market

Thursdays from 4-7pm at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, the Illinois Products Farmers market highlights the wide variety of food and food products grown and made locally.

Illinois State Fair

The fair has been celebrated almost every year since 1853. With a dominant Agricultural theme, each year's fair also strives to highlight Illinois products and businesses, as well as offer a wide variety of events, activities, and entertainment for children and adults. The state Department of Agriculture reports 737,052 people went through the gates at this year's fair in Springfield, up from 613,110 last year (Pantagraph, Aug 20, 2008). This year's fair is August 14-23, 2009.

Illinois State Fairground Events

In addition to the annual State Fair, the fairground hosts a wide-range of events throughout the year. The many amenities offered here on the Illinois State Fairgrounds will be of great assistance to you in hosting your event, large or small. The fairgrounds is the home of the world's fastest dirt track, more than 150 buildings, a grandstand, four indoor arenas, a covered outdoor arena, and over 1,000 stalls for livestock or horses. The new 9.3 million dollar Multi-Purpose Arena hosted the 2000-2001 National High School Finals, otherwise known as "The World's Largest Rodeo." The fairground's facilities can accommodate many needs such as conferences and Conventions, Theatre and Dance, Trade Shows, Dog & Cat Shows, Livestock Shows, Motorcycle Races, Monster Truck Shows, BMX Races, Freestyle Motorcross, Car Races, Rodeos, top entertainers.

International Carillon Festival (Rees Memorial Carillon)

Each year the Springfield Park District, Rees Carillon Society and the Carillon Bells, organize a weeklong festival. During the festival, world-renowned carillonneurs travel to the United States to play the Thomas Rees Carillon. Concerts are held each evening. The festival culminates with one of the best firework displays in Central Illinois. (<http://www.springfieldparks.org/facilities/carillon/festival.asp>)

LPGA State Farm Classic (Panther Creek County Club)

The State Farm Classic (formerly the Rail Charity Classic) is an LPGA tournament with 33-year history in Sangamon County. The Classic brings national media attention and world-class professional golf to the area. Since 1980, nearly \$3 million dollars has been distributed to charitable organizations throughout the State of Illinois. This year's event is scheduled for June 1-7. (<http://www.lpgastatefarmclassic.com/history.php>)

Old Capitol Farmers Market

Every Saturday morning from May to October, the Old Capitol Farmers' Market in downtown Springfield offers an excellent opportunity to learn about and purchase items from area food producers and artists.



Pawnee Farmers Market

Located at the Village Square, the Pawnee Farmers Market is every Thursday from 4-7pm.

Pied Piper Architectural Tours

Anthony Rubano of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency hosts free tours of downtown architectural sites the first Wednesday of each month through October. The tours start at 5:30 p.m. and normally start in

front of the Lincoln-Herndon Law Office. Contact the Downtown Springfield Inc. at 544-1723 for more information.

Route 66 Trail Ride

The "2009 Route 66 Trail Ride" is a loosely organized, self-supported bicycle tour meant to publicize and promote development of Illinois' Route 66 Trail bicycle route from Chicago to St. Louis. Ride organizers include the League of Illinois Bicyclists, the Route 66 Trail Executive Council, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The multi-day ride is held annually in late August/early September.

Sangamon County Fair

The fair features a Grandstand musical acts, a talent show, the HAYLOFT (agricultural techniques education for children), as well as many special events. June 17-21, 2009 in New Berlin.
(<http://www.sangcofair.com/>)

Springfield Old Capitol Art Fair

The Old Capitol Art Fair in Springfield, Illinois, is one of the most popular, juried art fairs in the country. Developed to contribute to the community's cultural, social, and economic growth, the Fair has become an acknowledged success and a model for fairs in other cities. (<http://www.socaf.org/about.html>)

Springfield Walks

Springfield's original and premiere walking tours and guide service that provides visitors all the history and mystery Springfield has to offer! Historical tours, ghost tours, storytelling, site tours, and step-on guides. Tours operate March through October. <http://www.springfieldwalks.com/index.shtml>

Tour de Corn

This annual cycling event takes place in connection with the Jaycee Sweet Corn Festival at the Chatham Community Park in mid-July. Wheelfast Bicycle Company typically organizes the event with routes ranging from 20 to 40 miles, including food stops and SAG service.

UIS Star Parties

The UIS Star parties offer residents and opportunity to learn about galaxies, the Sun, stars and stellar evolution. The parties take place at the rooftop observation deck atop Brookens Library during September and October.

CULTURAL AMENITIES

Libraries:

Municipal

Auburn Public Library

338 West Jefferson Street, Auburn, IL 62615

Barclay Public Library

220 Main St, Sherman, IL - (217) 672-3621
Chatham Area Public Library District
600 East Spruce Street, Chatham, IL 62629



Divernon Township Library

221 South Second Street, Divernon, IL 62530

Illipolis/Niantic Public Library

6th And Mary Streets, Illipolis, IL 62539

Lincoln Library – Springfield’s public library system, which consists of the main location and two branch locations.

Main Library 217-753-4900
326 S. 7th Street
Springfield, IL 62701

Southeast Branch 217-753-4980
2500 South Grand Ave. East
Springfield, IL 62703

West Branch 217-753-4985
1251 West Washington St.
Springfield, IL 62702

Pawnee Public Library

613 Douglas Street, Pawnee, IL 62558

Pleasant Plains Branch Library

555 Buckeye Rd, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677

Riverton Village Library

1200 East Riverton Road, Riverton, IL 62561

Rochester Public Library

1 Community Drive, Rochester, IL 62563

Sherman Public Library

2100 East Andrew Road, Sherman, IL 62684

Tri-City Public Library District

Recently established to serve the Buffalo, Mechanicsburg, Dawson areas.

West Sangamon Public Library

103 East Illinois Street, New Berlin, IL 62670

Williamsville Public Library

141 West Main Street, Williamsville, IL 62693

Specialty Libraries

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

112 N 6th St, Springfield, IL - (217) 558-8844

Circuit Court Law Library

200 S 9th St # 618, Springfield, IL - (217) 753-6816

Health Science Library

800 E Carpenter St, Springfield, IL - (217) 206-6633

Illinois Department of Public Health Training & Resource Library

828 S 2nd St, Springfield, IL - 217 558 2653

Illinois Department of Transport Library

2300 S Dirksen Pkwy, Springfield, IL - (217) 782-6680

Illinois Environmental Protection Library

1021 N Grand Ave E, Springfield, IL - (217) 782-9691

Illinois State Data Center Library

620 E Adams St # 6, Springfield, IL - (217) 782-1381

Illinois State Historical Library

1 W Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, IL - (217) 558-8844

Illinois State Library

300 S 2nd St, Springfield, IL - (217) 785-5600

Korean War Veteran National Museum & Library

9 S Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, IL - (217) 523-7230

Lawrence Memorial Library

101 E Laurel St, Springfield, IL - (217) 523-3159

Legislative Reference Bureau

301 S 2nd St # 112, Springfield, IL - (217) 782-6625

Lincoln Land Community College: Library

Springfield, IL - (217) 786-2354

Norris L Brookens Library

1 University Plaza # Brk140, Springfield, IL - (217) 206-6597

Sangamon County Genealogical Society Office Library

2856 S 11th St, Springfield, IL - (217) 529-0542

Southern Illinois University Medical Library

801 N Rutledge St, Springfield, IL - (217) 545-2659

State Archives

Capital Complex, Springfield, IL - (217) 782-4682

Supreme Court Library

200 E Capitol Ave, Springfield, IL - (217) 782-2424

United States Courts Library

600 E Monroe St # 305, Springfield, IL - (217) 492-4191

Museums:

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War Museum

The museum has a complete set of the "War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies" that may aid in your search for a missing link in your family history. Take a look at these and medals, photos, currency, drums, and uniforms from the Civil War.

503 South Walnut, Springfield (217) 544-0616

Illinois State Police Heritage Foundation and Museum

4000 N Peoria Road (located on historic Route 66), Springfield 217-525-1922

Grand Army Museum

629 South 7th Street, Springfield 217-522-4373

Museum of Funeral Customs

1440 Monument Avenue, Springfield 217-544-3480

Pearson Museum

801 North Rutledge Street, Springfield 217-785-2128

RT 66 Dream Car Museum

120 South Oak Street, Williamsville 217-566-3799

Springfield Children's Museum

619 E. Washington, Springfield

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum

112 N Sixth St., Springfield, IL

Illinois State Museum

Spring & Edwards streets, Springfield

Illinois Fire Museum

Central Ave & Main St, Springfield 217-524-8754

Korean War Veteran National Museum

9 S Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield 217-523-7230

Air Combat Museum

835 S Airport Rd, Springfield 217-789-7513

Illinois State Fair Museum

2324 S Glenwood Ave, Springfield 217-753-3866

Illinois Public Safety Center and Museum

Springfield 217-793-5297

Boxcar Museum

Elm St, Williamsville 217-566-2470

Lincoln Museum

401-599 W Edwards St, Springfield, IL

Chatham Railroad Museum

100 N State St, Chatham, 217-483-7792

Heritage In Flight Museum

1351 Airport Rd, Lincoln 217-732-3333

Kidzeum of Health and Science

9 South Old Capitol Plaza, Springfield 217-971-4435

Museum of Springfield History

628 S. Seventh St, Springfield 217-492-5929



Springfield-Sangamon County
Regional Planning Commission

National Museum of Surveying

521 E Washington St., Springfield 217-523-3130

Shea's Gas Station Museum

2075 Peoria Road, Springfield 217- 522-0475

Trutter Museum

5250 Shepherd Road, Springfield 217-786-4510

Places:

Hoogland Center for the Arts

Originally built as a Masonic Temple in 1909, and expanded in 1960, the Center for the Arts is a 80,000 square foot facility that houses four major performance spaces and numerous gathering areas. The Center accommodates the space and storage needs of local arts and cultural organizations, many of whom either lacked permanent facilities or whose former facilities placed undue burdens on limited operating budgets. (<http://www.scfta.org/index.php>)

Mid-Illinois Medical District

The Mid-Illinois Medical District acts as the developer of facilities and undertakes projects intended to advance Springfield's position as a Medical Center of Excellence. The District is developing a Master Plan for land use to promote the highest and best use of properties within the District as it relates to supporting the growth of the medical profession and the delivery of health care services. The District will act as a catalyst in the promotion of technology transfer, moving the discoveries of local medical researchers into the marketplace where each can improve our shared quality of life and generate additional local employment. (<http://www.midillinoismedicaldistrict.org/main.php?pid=13#anchor8>)

Sangamon County is known for its excellent medical facilities, anchored by Memorial and St. John's Hospitals in Springfield. The Prairie Heart Center at St. Johns is the largest center of its kind in the state. Memorial Hospital's burn center is a leader in burn care and provides services for all of central and southern Illinois. Southern Illinois University Medical School's main campus is in Springfield and collaborates with both Memorial Medical Center and St. John's Hospital.

New Salem's Theatre in the Park

Enjoy performance art under the stars at Central Illinois' Premier Outdoor Theatre at Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site. (<http://www.theatreinthepark.net/>)

Sangamon Auditorium

Sangamon Auditorium opened its doors on February 21, 1981, and has since presented more than 2000 events. It is the only auditorium of its kind and size in the Springfield area. The 2,018-seat auditorium has grown to offer over 120 events each year, presenting the finest in dance, theater, music, comedy, opera, and musicals. Home to the Illinois Symphony Orchestra and Springfield Ballet Company, the Auditorium serves other local organizations and artists as well.

During the Auditorium's illustrious history, some have been public events; some have been private meetings; some have been children's shows; and some have been for university students, graduates, and their family and friends. In addition to the many performance events, the Auditorium has hosted debates and inaugurations. In all, nearly 2 million people have come to the Auditorium from Illinois and beyond since the first performance. (<http://www.uis.edu/sangamonauditorium/>)

Places – Route 66:

Thousands of visitors from around the globe travel America's Main Street each year to experience the legend of U.S. Route 66 and to discover the real America. On Illinois Route 66, one of the nation's newest National Scenic Byways, you will actually travel through the hometown neighborhoods, not around them, including a visit to the heart of Springfield, Illinois home of two famous Route 66 landmarks; Shea's Gas Station Museum and the Cozy Drive-in. Springfield sits in the heart of Illinois' U.S. Route 66 and boasts some of America's favorite Route 66 icons. (<http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/Route66/kicks.asp>)

Route 66 - Shea's Gas Station Museum

A favorite photo stop for Route 66 travelers from around the world, Shea's is a charming and eclectic collection of over half a century of gas station memorabilia. Owner Bill Shea is always eager to share his stories about his collection and his life over 50 years alongside Route 66. He has become an international celebrity, as noted by his guestbook, signed by visitors from around the world. Leave plenty of time to browse through his collection of photos, soak in the humor of his homemade signs, and hear some of his fascinating tales.

Route 66 - Cozy Dog Drive In

This traditional Route 66 diner became a part of the history of the Road, and the history of Springfield, when inventor Ed Waldmire introduced the Cozy Dog, the famous "hot dog on a stick", in 1946. The Waldmire family still makes the delicacy daily.

Route 66 Twin Drive-In Theatre

What is more iconic of America's 1950s heyday than going to a drive in movie? Springfield boasts one of Illinois' few remaining drive in movie theaters where you and your family can enjoy an evening of movies under the stars. It is the perfect family night out with double features nightly and delicious, fresh popcorn. Open nightly at dusk, from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

Route 66 - The Railsplitter (Divernon)

Recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records as the "World's Largest Covered Wagon," the Railsplitter and its drive, Abe Lincoln, welcome visitors throughout the year. Visionary Dave Bentley built the incredible creation by hand and continues to add new features to the exhibit each year.



Route 66 - Pig Hip Restaurant (Broadwell)

An icon of Route 66, the Pig Hip Restaurant was open from 1937 to 1991, and served as a popular museum from 1991 to 2007. The building caught fire on March 5, 2007 and was destroyed. Ernie Edwards, creator of the Pig Hip sandwich and owner of the restaurant, still lives next door. The site is now simply identified with a stone marker.

Route 66 - Die Cast Auto Sales (Williamsville)

Sit back and relax while you drink an ice-cold 25-cent soda pop with owners Frank and Jackie Kohlrus. They have converted this 1930s service station into a collector's dream. The walls are filled with a huge inventory of die-cast cars, Coca-Cola collectibles, and Route 66 souvenirs.

Route 66 Dream Car Museum (Williamsville)

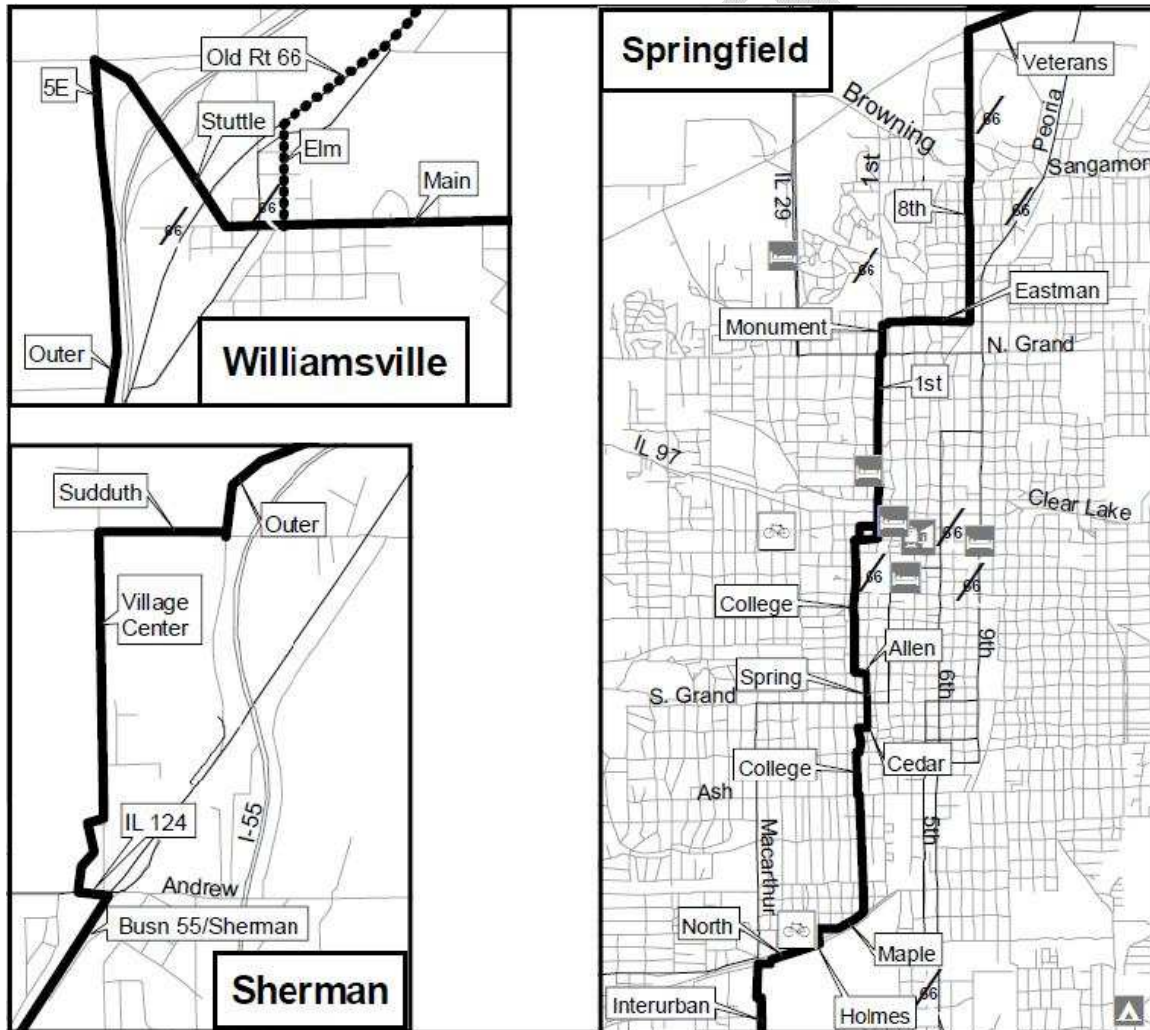
You will think you are dreaming when you step into the private vintage car collection of owners Phil and Pat Hawley. They have assembled an incredible sampling of some of the most admired autos in history,

and displayed them in a must-see Route 66-themed museum. Do not miss the 50s-style sock hops and cruises throughout the summer month.

Route 66 Bike Trail

From 1926 to 1977, Route 66 led travelers from Chicago to St. Louis, before being replaced by Interstate 55. Today, a continuous Historic Route 66 route is signed and driven by many. In 2005, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources convened a committee of public and private groups with a new vision of exploring the sights, cities, towns, and rural areas of Route 66 at a slower pace. The long-term plan: develop a Route 66 Trail system of off-road paths and comfortable roads for bicycles, equestrians, hikers, and more. Meanwhile, define an interim route that can be used right away while building the project's momentum.

The trail utilizes a number of roads through Sangamon County. The complete map, along with alternate routes and points of interest, can be downloaded from the League of Illinois Bicyclist's website (www.bikelib.org). The Williamsville, Sherman, and Springfield segments are detailed in the image below. The route also passes through Chatham entering via the interurban trail and exiting via Main Street to Covered Bridge Road.



Visitor Information Services

The following locations in Springfield offer information services regarding area sites and events.

- Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum - <http://www.presidentlincoln.org/>
- Capitol Complex Visitors Center - 425 S. College St., Springfield. Ph. (217)524-6620
- Central Illinois Tourism Development Office - <http://www.visitcentralillinois.com/>
- Lincoln Home Visitor Center - <http://www.nps.gov/liho/index.htm>
- Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau - <http://www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/>
- Illinois Visitors Center at Union Station - 500 E. Madison, Springfield. Ph. 217-557-4588

Organizations

Sangamon County has a rich and active community with organizations for virtually any interest and serving a wide constituency. A comprehensive list of organizations is follows as Appendix A.

Appendix A – Organizations

Sections

Arts/Heritage.....	29
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Sports/Activities.....	32
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Arts/Heritage

Colin Art Gallery

(217) 626-2300, 6111 Mill St, Pleasant Plains

Historical Sites Commission of Springfield, Illinois

<http://www.springfield.il.us/commissions/histsites/CommissionMessage.asp>

Hoogland Center for the Arts

<http://www.scfta.org/>

Illinois Symphony

<http://www.ilsymphony.info/>

International Carillon Festival (Rees Memorial Carillon)

<http://www.springfieldparks.org/facilities/carillon/festival.asp>

Marc Zoeschke Photography

<http://www.marczoschke.com/>

Mike Manning's Studio

(217) 789-1833, 622 S. 8th, Springfield

Prairie Art Alliance

<http://www.prairieart.org/>

Sangamon County Historic Sites Commission

<http://www.co.sangamon.il.us/Departments/RegionalPlanning/historic-preservation.asp>

Sangamon County Historical Society

<http://www.sancohis.org/>

Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony

<http://www.svys.org/>

Springfield Area Arts Council

<http://www.springfieldartsco.org/>

Springfield Art Association

<http://www.springfieldart.org/>

Springfield Camera Club

<http://springfieldcameraclub.org/>

Springfield Municipal Opera

<http://www.themuni.org/>

Springfield Old Capital Art Fair

<http://www.socaf.org/>

Springfield Theatre Center

<http://www.springfieldtheater.com/>



Sue Thompson Gallery

(217) 787-0594, 1305 Wabash Ave # H, Springfield

Camping/Boating

Anchor Boat Club

<http://anchorboatclub.com/>

Double J Campground & Rv Park

(217) 483-9998, Chatham

Island Bay Yacht Club

<http://www.ibyconline.com/>

KOA Campgrounds of Rochester

(217) 498-7002, 4320 KOA Rd, Rochester

Lake Press Club

(217) 529-1221, 13 Club Area, Springfield

Mr Lincoln's Campground Rv Ctr

(217) 529-8206, Springfield

Riverside Park

(217) 753-0630, Springfield

Springfield KOA Kampgrounds

(217) 498-7002, Rochester

Springfield Motor Boat Club

(217) 529-1511, 17 Club Area, Springfield

Springfield Route 66 RV Park

(217) 522-2900, Springfield

Springfield Ski & Boat Club

(217) 529-9090, 268 Maple Grv, Springfield

Community Service

AMBUCS – American Business Club of Springfield

www.abc-spfld.com/

Friends of Sangamon Valley

<http://www.fosv.org/about.php>



Homeless and Hunger Community Organizations:

Abundant Faith Supportive Services	Springfield Housing Authority	Springfield Contract Ministries
Fifth Street Renaissance-SARA Center	the Heartland Continuum of Care	Homeless United for Change
Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce	Riverton Community Food Pantry	Mini O'Bierne Crisis Nursery
Mental Health Center of Central Illinois	Springfield First Presbyterian	Helping Hands Shelter
Washington Street Mission	Grace Lutheran of Springfield	United Way of Central Illinois
Zion Baptist Pantry in Springfield	St. John's Hospital	Loami Area Community Pantry
The Auburn Food Pantry	The Central Illinois Food Bank	

Illinois Senior Olympics

<http://www.ilsenoly.org/>

Mature Mob

<http://www.ssoci.org/mature-mob.htm>

Rotary Club of Springfield

<http://www.rotarydistrict6460.org/springfieldsunrise/index.html>

Sangamon County Community Foundation

<http://www.sccf.us/>

Senior Services of Central Illinois

<http://www.ssoci.org/>

Springfield Lake Shore Improvement Association

<http://www.lakespringfield.org/>

United Way of Central Illinois

<http://www.springfieldunitedway.org/>

Gardening/Food

Illinois Department of Agriculture – State Fairgrounds Community Gardens

<http://www.agr.state.il.us/garden/>

Illinois Products Farmers Market

<http://www.agr.state.il.us/nightmarket/>

Illinois Stewardship Alliance

<http://www.ilstewards.org/>

Old Capitol Farmers Market

<http://www.downtownspringfield.org/market.htm>

Pawnee Farmers Market

<http://www.pawneechamber.org/community/events.htm>

The Springfield Garden Club

<http://www.gardencentral.org/illinois/springfield/>

Sustainable Springfield

<http://www.sustainablespringfield.org/About%20SSI.htm>

Equestrian

Braveheart Therapeutic Riding Center

<http://www.bravehearttrc.org/>

Lazy T Ranch – Appaloosas

<http://www.lazyt-ranch.com/>

Lori Nelson Training at Stoney Creek Farm

<http://www.lorinelsontraining.com/>

Prairie Trail Riders

<http://www.geocities.com/prairietrailriders/horselinks.html>

Refuge Ranch

<http://www.refuge-ranch.org/>

Richland Ranch Quarter Horses

<http://www.richlandranch.com/about.html>

The Stables on Horse Farm Road

<http://www.thestablesonhorsefarmroad.com/>

Tower Hill Equestrian Center

<http://www.towerhillequestrian.com/>

Sports/Activities

Bridge Center of Springfield

(Bridge Club of Springfield and The Abe Lincoln Bridge Club)

<http://www.spibridge.org/>

Bullet Express Indoor Shooting Range

(217) 438-3015, 5675 W Divernon Rd, Auburn, IL

Central Illinois Corvettes Club

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/frameaset.cfm?club=centilvets>

Central Illinois Youth Soccer League

<http://www.ciysl.com/>

Clear Creek Archery

(217) 364-4343, 11835 Mechanicsburg, Dawson

Capital City Outlaws

<http://www.ccofootball.com/>

Colony West Swim Club

<http://colonywestswimclub.com/default.aspx>

Disc Golf 2009 DEAF Nationals



<http://www.il09.org/index.htm>

The Greater Springfield USBC Bowling Association

<http://www.gsbabowl.com/indexnew.php>

Iron Horse Triathlon

<http://www.npironhorsetri.com/>

Knights Action Park

<http://www.knightsactionpark.com/>

Mid-State Kart Club

<http://www.midstatekartclub.com/>

Prairie Archery

(217) 965-5553, 23316 Virden Rd, Virden

Sangamon Astronomical Society

<http://www.sas-sky.org/main.html>

Sherman Athletic Club

<http://www.shermanac.com/>

Siddens Shooting Range

(217) 498-6988, 10775 Buckhart Road, Rochester

Springfield Area Mountain Bike Club

<http://www.sambamtb.org/>

Springfield Bicycle Club

<http://www.spfldcycling.org/>

Springfield Celts Rugby Club

<http://www.celtsrugby.com/>

Springfield Disc Golf Club

<http://discgolfclub.org/>

Springfield Junior Blues Hockey

<http://www.jrblues.com/>

Springfield Milers

<http://www.springfieldmilers.com/>

Springfield Road Runners Club

<http://srrc.net/>

Springfield Ski Club

<http://www.springfieldskiclub.org/>

Springfield Sliders

<http://www.springfieldsliders.com/>

Springfield YMCA

<http://www.springfieldymca.org/index.cfm?pID=985>



Team MACK Racing Association

<http://www.teammackracing.org/>

Team Whiskers Pro Cat fishing Team

<http://www.teamwhiskers.com/>

Tow Bears Custom Archery Ltd

(217) 492-2327, 3121 E Elm St, Springfield

USSSA Baseball

Sangamon County Cannons, Chatham Force

http://www.ussabaseball.org/about_ussa.htm

Youth

Abraham Lincoln Council – Boy Scouts of America

<http://www.alincolnbsa.org/>

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Illinois Capital Region

<http://www.bbbscapitalregion.org/aboutus.php>

Boys and Girls Clubs of Springfield

<http://www.bgcsil.org/>

Camp Care-A-Lot

<http://www.campcarealot.org/About.htm>

Girl Scouts of Central Illinois

<http://www.girlscouts-gsci.org/>

Sangamon County 4-H Club

<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/sangamonmenard/4hyouth.html>

Springfield Moms

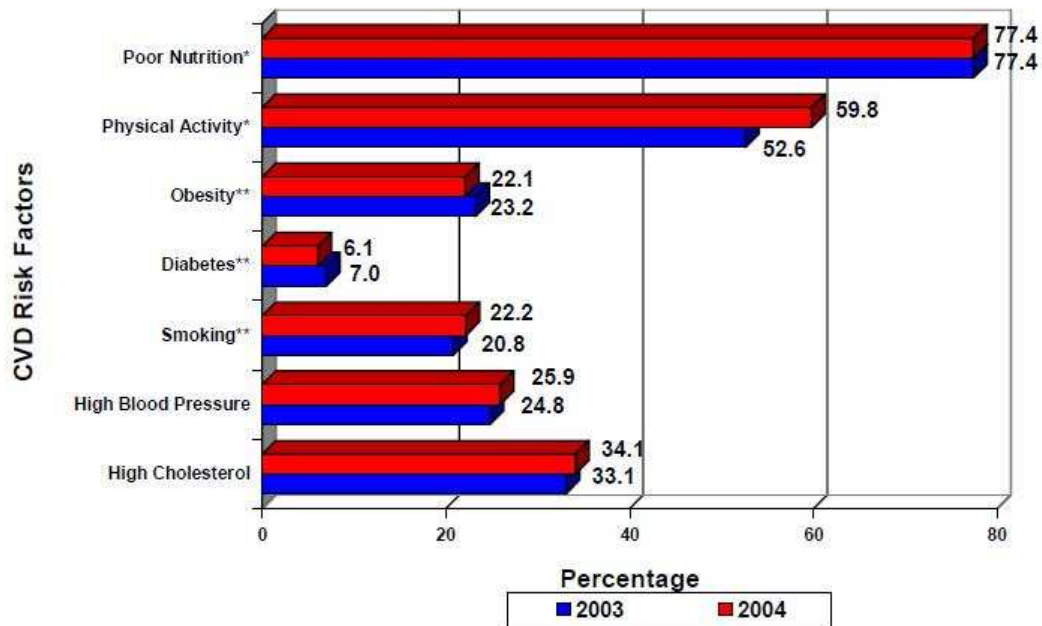
<http://springfieldmoms.org/>

Springfield YMCA

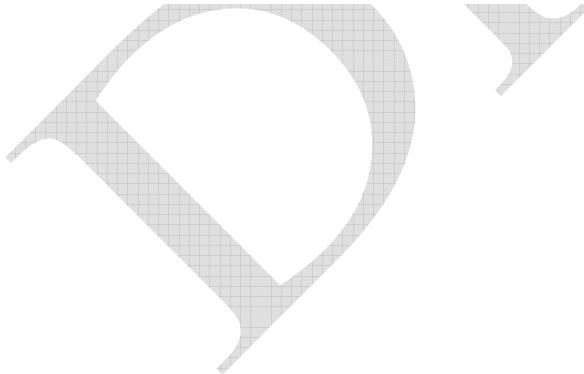
<http://www.springfieldymca.org/index.cfm?PID=985>

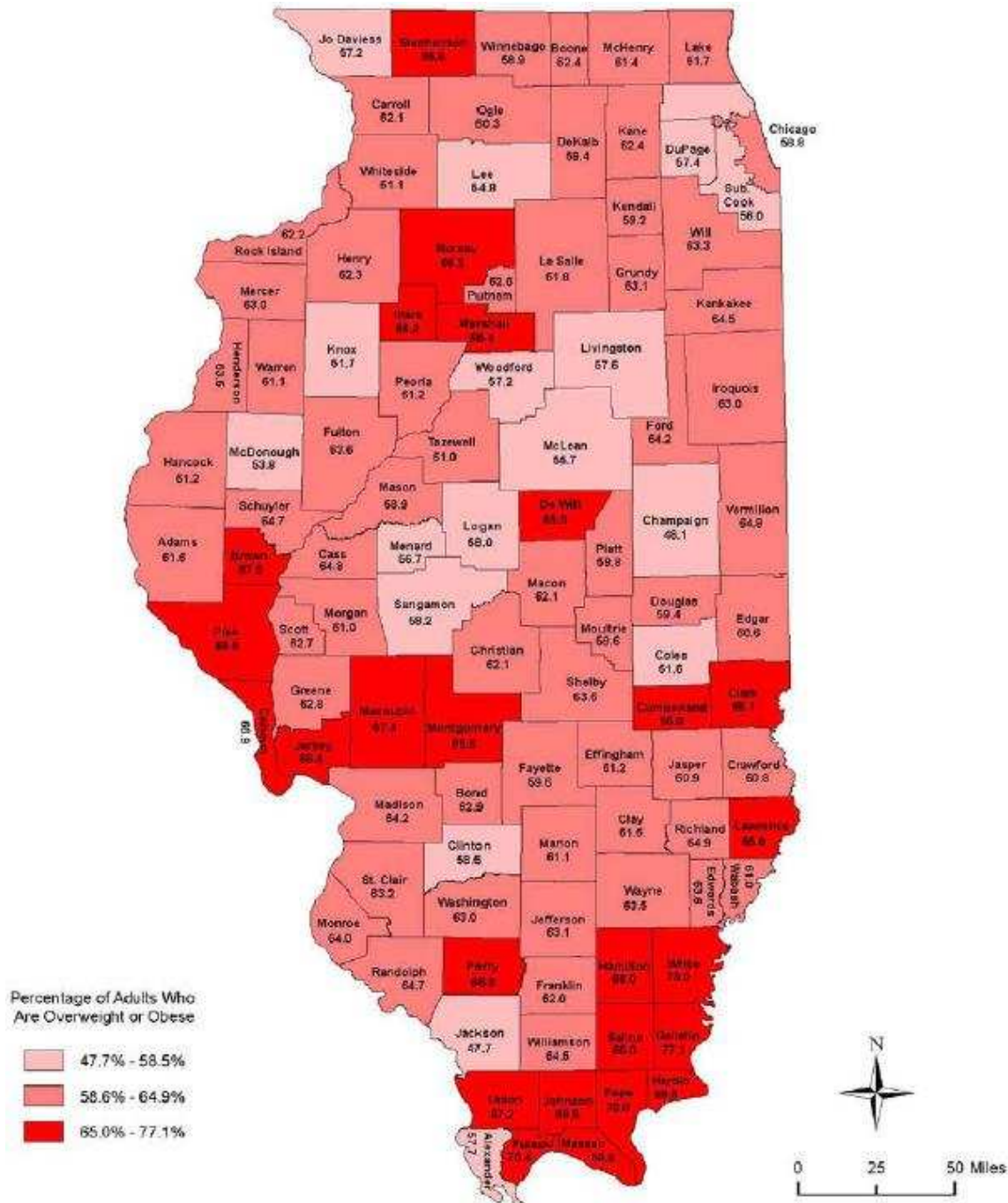


Percentage of Adults Reporting Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors, Illinois, 2003 and 2004



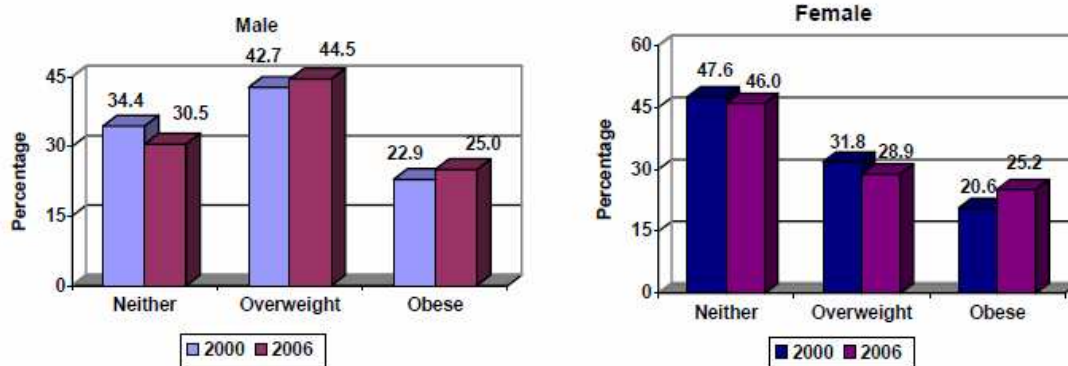
Data Source: U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System; Illinois Department of Public Health BRFSS; *2003, **2004





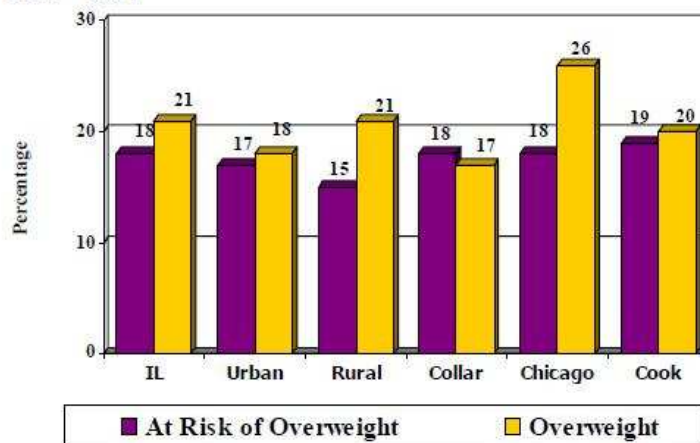
The percentage of Illinois adults by Illinois County 2004-2006, who do not meet the recommended level of physical activity, is illustrated in (Figure 13). The highest percentage of adults not meeting recommended levels live in Pope County (68.3%) in southern Illinois. **Sangamon County in central Illinois is identified as the county representing the highest activity levels for adults in the state.**

Comparison of Illinois 2000 and 2006 Prevalence Data for Overweight and Obesity, by Gender



Data Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/>

Percentage of Illinois Third Grade Students at Risk for Overweight and Overweight, 2003 – 2004



Data source: Healthy Smiles, Healthy Growth 2003 – 2004; IDPH; Office of Health Promotion; Division of Oral Health

Children and Youth

Overweight is defined and determined differently in children and adolescents than in the adult population. For adults, BMI greater than 25 is considered overweight. For children and adolescents, at risk for overweight is defined as the 85th to 95th percentile and overweight is defined as 95th percentile or higher. This is based on the World Health Organization and CDC age and sex specific growth charts. Data from the National Health and Nutrition Examinations Surveys (NHANES) Survey II 1976-1980 and NHANES 2003-2004, reinforce the seriousness of overweight in children and adolescents. For children aged 2-5 years, prevalence of overweight increased from (5%) to (13%). For children aged 6 to 11 years, prevalence increased from (6.5%) to (18.8%); and for 12-19 years of age, prevalence increased from (5.0%) to (17.5%). The 2004 Illinois Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (PedNSS) revealed that (14.3%) 2-5-year olds were overweight. This rate is close to the figure 14.7 percent reported for PedNSS 2005.

Strategies

The following strategies are from:

The Illinois Strategic Plan: Promoting Healthy Eating and Physical Activity to Prevent and Control Obesity 2007 – 2013

Nutrition and Physical Activity Program

Illinois Department of Public Health, November 2007 (pages 25-27)

Recommendation 1: Increase Physical Activity Opportunities

CDC Priority Areas: increase physical activity, energy balance, decrease television viewing

School Setting

Strategies:

- Provide training to promote mandated school wellness policies on the importance of daily physical education.
- 26
- Make recommendations regarding physical education for teachers curriculum preparation.
- Develop and provide recommendations to ISBE regarding the health and physical education development testing sequence.
- Promote nationally-recognized evidence-based programs to encourage non-motorized methods of transportation for students and schools including the Safe Routes to Schools Program.
- Expand opportunities for competitive and non-competitive sports and physical activity that include team and individual sports participation, club sports and intramurals.
- Provide programs or technology to promote physical activity designed to reduce television and video time viewing like Dance Dance Revolution, a video game designed to encourage physical activity.
- Provide schools with best practice models to encourage physical activity outside of physical education class and develop tools to monitor physical activity done outside of physical education class.
- Explore opportunities for a peer-education model for grades Kindergarten -12 to increase physical activity outside the physical education class in school.
- Collaborate with IAHPERD and other organizations to eliminate physical education waivers.
- Create events and opportunities to promote National Physical Education Week.
- Coordinate school-related activities with the PE4 Life organization.
- Develop partnerships with health care providers, local fitness clubs, park districts and after school programs.
- Sponsor wellness fairs at schools through regional offices of education and IAHPERD.
- Increase the number of schools trained to implement the CATCH physical activity component to increase moderate-to-vigorous physical activity to more than 50 percent of class time.

Community Settings

Strategies:

- Promote evidence-based pre-K motor skill development programs (e.g., Choosy Kids) in all pre-Kindergarten and daycare settings.
- Expand MN Initiatives into other neighborhoods statewide.
- Promote the utilization of community-based facilities, including schools, to provide opportunities for the public to be physically active.
- Develop and market programs to encourage teenagers continuation of healthy travel habits as they gain access to automobiles.
- Target minority populations and address potential barriers to the adoption of regular physical activity.
- Provide low-cost programming at local YWCA or YMCA, schools and community organizations that offer additional places to be physically active.
- Encourage schools to serve as community wellness/exercise facilities or centers for indoor

walking locations.

- Implement walking programs in non-traditional places like malls, churches, senior centers, community organizations and small townships.
- Encourage evidence-based, faith-based physical activity programs like Body and Soul that targets minority populations.

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- Provide locations and/or community watch programs that can provide safe neighborhoods, playgrounds and communities for physical activity.
- Ensure community park boards have information and guidelines on safe equipment and safe areas for physical activity.
- Educate motorists, police officers, pedestrians and bicyclists about pedestrian and bicyclist right-of-way laws and rules of the road designed to increase safety.
- Audit access issues that prohibit walk ability and bike ability of various communities.
- Promote League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly Community Program to encourage and award towns for improving conditions for bicyclists.

Worksite Settings

Strategies:

- Build a local wellness coalition with representatives from small and large businesses, corporations and non-for-profits for physical activity efforts in worksites.
- Encourage businesses to promote and use incentives encouraging alternative methods of transportation.
- Develop partnerships with the business community to advance worksite wellness programs.
- Reach small businesses with education campaigns designed to provide resources for physical activity services and programs.
- Develop a worksite reporting system to begin collection of data on physical activity programs through the Illinois Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development.
- Encourage businesses to increase the number of point of decision prompts to encourage the use of stairs.
- Increase the number of businesses that offer signage for walkable and bikeable paths.
- Provide bike locking facilities at businesses and workplaces.
- Encourage businesses to use "bike to work" and "shop by bike" programs to encourage adult bicycle usage.
- Increase the number of motivation programs for physical activity and provide exercise equipment to promote physical activity at worksites and businesses.
- Increase linkages with occupational health nurses and physicians to monitor health status and health risk regarding nutrition and physical activity for employees.
- Encourage small business owners to pool resources to offer physical activity and comprehensive wellness classes at worksites (e.g., Active Living Everyday).
- Disseminate best practices on nutrition and physical activity programs and activities to businesses/worksites.